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1935 DISTRICT MEETINGS

Date	Place	Chairman	Secretary
May 7—Salem		Amy Hammersmith	Pearl McConnell, North Vernon
May 9—Boonville		Mrs. Anna Isley	Sadie Archer, Princeton
May 14—Rushville		Margaret Hager	Thelma Alford, Fortville
May 16—Spencer		Floy French	Mary Rogers, Bloomington
May 21—Crawfordsville		Myrtle Weatherholt	Mrs. Belva Mitchell, Thorntown
May 22—Kentland		Eunette Buck	Ida Milliken, Rensselaer
May 23—Hobart		Mrs. Bess McGillivray	Mary Ruch, Hammond
May 28—Muncie		Sally Robards	Elizabeth Simpkins, Ball State Teachers College
June 4—Plymouth		Velma Brewer	Zola Moss, South Bend
June 6—Kendallville		Mrs. C. B. Bunyan	Mrs. Virginia Williams, Fort Wayne

Annual Conference American Library Association
Denver, Colorado, June 24-29, 1935

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL BUILDING DEDICATION, DECEMBER 7, 1934

The ceremonies of dedication were held in the Great Hall, additional chairs being set in the Exhibit Hall to care for more people. Between five and six hundred people attended the meeting. Speakers were seated behind the delivery desk.

Charles N. Thompson, Vice-President of the Commission, opened the meeting and introduced Rabbi M. M. Feuerlicht, who voiced a solemn and feeling invocation for divine blessing upon the occasion.

Mr. Thompson then spoke briefly upon the importance of the occasion, reviewing briefly the efforts to secure the enactment of a law authorizing the funds for the building, the appointment of the Building Commission and the selection of plans, the letting of contracts, and the final completion of the building.

Mr. Thompson read a telegram from William E. Henry, state librarian from 1897 to 1906, and introduced Mary Eileen Ahern, state librarian from 1893 to 1895. The director of the library, the architects, the advisory architects, and the general contractor were also introduced to the audience. A long list of those who had sent greetings and congratulations on the occasion was read by Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson then introduced Mrs. Robert A. Hicks of Cambridge City, President of the Federation of Women's Clubs of Indiana, who read greetings on behalf of that organization. Mrs. Hicks spoke as follows:

It is a privilege and a pleasure to be here today and to have a small part upon this program. As President of the Indiana Federation of Clubs I bring to you the congratulations and felicitations of more than 22,000 club women whom I have the honor to represent.

There is something inspiring about anything which is new. A new book, a new automobile, a new year, each is an incentive for greater efforts toward the enrichment of life.

We rejoice today in the dedication of a new Indiana State Library and Historical Building—a beautiful and fitting monument to the forward-looking citizenry of our commonwealth.

We rejoice that we have men and women leaders, strong and courageous, who carried forward this building program despite unfavorable economic conditions.

We rejoice in our sturdy pioneers who more than a hundred years ago laid the foundation for the Indiana State Library. We are pardonably proud of their vision and foresight. Likewise we are grateful to all those who through the years have cultivated the seed planted in 1816.

We rejoice that as club women through the years we have been interested in the library movement. If today, all of the public libraries in which club women have had a part in establishing were suddenly to go out of existence I believe few would be left standing. In a great many instances the small club library formed the nucleus for the public library.

Our organization is largely one of adult education and we wish here to register our deep appreciation of the Indiana State Library in whichever we have a faithful ally. The library is to the adult what the school is to the child. As long as there is life there is need for education. Not only for ourselves but for those who will come after us.

We are reminded of the old man traveling a lonely highway and coming upon a dangerous chasm. He bravely crossed, since the roaring stream had no fears for him. When safe on the other side he turned and built a bridge to span the tide. A fellow pilgrim passing near said, "Why waste your time—you have crossed the chasm and will not again be coming this way." The old man turned and said, "This stream has been naught to me but a fair-haired boy may come this way to whom this might be

a pitfall—I am building this bridge for him."

Through the library as an educational guide we have a continuous opportunity for more complete living. Its doors, one after another, open to us worlds of rare interest and power.

We stand today grateful for the pioneers of the past, conscious of our responsibility to the present, and we are building for the future.

Robert Bradshaw, of Delphi, President of the Indiana Library Trustees' Association, read the following on behalf of that organization:

"I want to congratulate those who have been instrumental in planning and erecting this wonderful building for the profit and pleasure of the people of Indiana. I appreciate this opportunity to pay our respects to Mr. Bailey who will be long remembered, not only as one intimately associated with this project, but also as a distinguished administrator of this department of public service. Surely everyone connected with this work will take pride in it as long as they live. From time to time it has been my privilege to see it take shape and assume all these appropriate symbols of human and of Hoosier history. The combined genius of creative artists and experienced practical administrators are here united in a structure that will be long appreciated and admired. But this splendid building, whose beauty and utility are so evident, needs no praise from me.

"Those of us, who as library trustees, are chiefly concerned with the operation and maintenance of some two hundred and twenty local public libraries in every part of this great state, like to regard this as a symbol of Indiana's continued interest in and appreciation of library service in general. The State Library supervises, or rather advises us, and supplements our local work. We hope that in the future our support may be as adequate as your housing, and that we may have competent professionally qualified personnel and shelves well stocked with the good books our people

are clamoring for. Library service is more important than any building, however noble it may be. This building must be a great deal more than an imposing monument. From it we hope to see a universal service developed, hand in hand with the school system of which we are so justly proud, and available to boys and girls, and their elders, in every section of the state, rural as well as urban."

Frank H. Whitmore, of the East Chicago public library, President of the Indiana Library Association, presented the following greeting:

"The impressive and stately building that is being dedicated today rests firmly on the soil of the state's capital city but in a deeper sense the institution finds its foundation in a rich heritage that has come down from earlier times. It rests as truly on the priceless tradition of scholarship and learning which has been nurtured in numberless communities throughout the state. The roots of this tradition reach out to the schoolmaster and the minister in many a pioneer hamlet. It traces back to the settlements at New Harmony, at Vincennes, at Crawfordsville, at Richmond and to other cultural centres where books and reading have been revered.

"The creations of writers within the state have strengthened and emphasized this tradition to an immeasurable degree. The writings of the universally known school of Indiana authors have become an imperishable part of American letters. The creators of these books lighted a flame which still burns brightly in the prose and verse of a host of living Indiana writers. It is a congenial soil, then, on which to rear an edifice which shall be at one and the same time a depository for the treasures of the past, a shrine for Indiana literature and a dynamic agency for education and enlightenment.

"On this rich background of tradition and through public generosity the state has erected this well-equipped building which is not only an impressive reminder of the permanent value of books but a highly

serviceable and resplendent workshop for the student and the scholar. No one, we can safely predict, will enter its doors without noting the practical features of its interior or leave its corridors without experiencing the silent appeal of its beauty. Into the structure there has indubitably gone the clear vision of its planners, the results of patient study, the niceties of architectural design, the competent work of the builder, the specialized knowledge of the librarian. The faith expressed becomes, in truth, 'the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.'

"The librarians of Indiana share in the general satisfaction of having within the borders of the state this spacious and well-appointed library centre, in a building which provides for the preservation of books, archives, documents, records, and furnishes a home for historical research that will stand as a splendid and lasting treasure house. Librarians and the friends of libraries see in it an abundant source of material for official needs and a vitalizing force which will continue to coordinate and strengthen the varied library agencies throughout the state. They see in it, too, the embodiment of the best thought and ideals of a library era engrossed, to a high degree, with skillful library administration, extension and planning.

"It is a privilege and a pleasure to bring you, on behalf of the Indiana Library Association, cordial greetings on the occasion of the formal dedication of this building and to assure you of the Association's delight in the completion of the structure, of its deep interest in the institution and its best wishes for the library's growth and welfare.

"Especially I bring to Louis J. Bailey, the director of this great treasure house of books and knowledge, an expression of the esteem and homage of his colleagues in the library world of Indiana. They are glad that this institution with its specialized service and state-wide work has at its head a highly trained and experienced library executive, serving with zeal and devotion

the library cause in state and nation, sagacious in counsel, efficient in action, a sturdy and resourceful leader in the field of books and social service.

"They rejoice that after years of staunch and tireless work he is now coming into his kingdom—a realm of books and goodly human toil. His associates throughout the libraries of Indiana wish him years of happy service as director of this library."

In the absence of Eli Lilly, President of the Indiana Historical Society, Mr. Thompson read the following greeting, which had been prepared by Mr. Lilly to present on behalf of the society:

"The Indiana Historical Society sends its greetings and its felicitations to the Library Building Commission upon the completion of its work. The members of the society for years have looked forward to the erection of a state library and historical building. The need for it has been very great. Not only important private collections, but important official records, have been lost because no state agency was able to take care of them. Now that the state has a safe and commodious building for historical material, the society anticipates with assurance the collection and the preservation of these records.

"In providing a large room of marked architectural distinction for the William Henry Smith Memorial Library of the Historical Society in the new building, the state has made possible the full utilization of the library and the endowment bequeathed to the society by the late Delavan Smith. The society's library has adopted the policy of securing rare and unique items of historical importance which would not otherwise be available in any library of the state. In this the State Library and the Historical Society Library are working in the finest possible cooperation. The society pledges itself, and its hundreds of members throughout the state, to the task of preserving and making available the history of this great commonwealth, and of contributing to the fullest understanding of its past.

"The members of the Historical Society are especially gratified that the state has made adequate provision for a structure worthy of its object, and that the Building Commission, the architect, and the contractor have achieved a building of such fine proportion, such beautiful finish, and such artistic embellishment as that which is being dedicated today.

"All the citizens of the state owe profound thanks to all those who have had any part in the creation of this State Library and Historical Building."

Dr. George B. Utley, librarian of the Newberry Library of Chicago and former president of the American Library Association, delivered a brief address, and brought greetings on behalf of the American Library Association and libraries outside of the state of Indiana. Mr. Utley reviewed briefly the story of the Indiana State Library, and brought to mind a number of the people who had been connected with its growth and development, mentioning particularly William E. Henry, Demarchus C. Brown, Henry N. Sanborn, Carl H. Milam, Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl and Mary Aileen Ahern.

Dr. Utley discussed also the position in which libraries find themselves owing to the economic conditions of the times, and expressed the importance of the position occupied by reference libraries, particularly as exemplified by the Indiana State Library. Dr. Utley's address was appreciated with its kindly delineation of character and for its forthright message of courage and service in the face of difficulties.

Following the address of Dr. Utley, Mr. Thompson called upon Herbert P. Kenney, President of the Library Building Commission, to present the building to the state on behalf of the Commission.

Mr. Kenney in his address spoke of the cost of the building, analyzing it in some detail, and referred particularly to the use of various Indiana products in its construction. With these remarks, Mr. Kenney, as President of the State Library Building Commission, turned over the management

and control of the building to the constituted authorities of the state, through the Governor.

Mr. Thompson next introduced the Honorable Paul V. McNutt, Governor of the State of Indiana, who made the principal address, as follows:

ADDRESS

GOVERNOR PAUL V. McNUTT

Even though this building is today merely presented by the state to the state, a vote of thanks is appropriate. The Building Commission has indeed made a gift to the state, the gift of the time and service of its members. Receiving no compensation, they have given generously of their best thought and their best judgment. Theirs, I know, has been no perfunctory response to an honor conferred upon them; they have regarded their appointment as conferring responsibility as well as dignity upon them. This building itself, both in its general aspect and in its details, shows that the State Library Building Commission has, individually and collectively, spared no pains to give the state the best value for its money and the finest product that technical skill could produce. The thanks of the state are therefore due to Mr. Kenney and his fellow members, and the former members of the Commission. May I mention especially three members of the Commission who from the first were deeply interested in its work and did much to bring about the result which we now see, but which they did not live to see, the late Charles T. Sansberry, of Anderson, the late George L. Saunders, of Bluffton, and the late Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, of Muncie.

This building has been erected just one hundred years after the erection across the street, of the first state capitol in Indianapolis. It, and the present state capitol, which had to be built to take its place less than fifty years afterward, were planned and constructed along classical and monumental lines. They were patterned after the model developed by Greece and the Byzantine Empire. To a large extent, they

sacrificed both convenience and efficiency in the transaction of business to the dignity and symmetry sought by the ancients for their temples of worship.

I am glad that this building, while not failing to give the impression of a monumental public building, has been designed and constructed primarily with a view to the best fulfillment of the functions for which it was intended. It is one of the signs of development in American taste and in American architecture, that we are seeking and attaining in our public buildings, both utility and beauty; beauty, may I say, based upon utility. Stately columns, whether Doric, Ionic, or Corinthian, were appropriate for ancient temples where the mystery of divinity required dim interiors, but for office work, for the study of books and documents, for the business of the modern world, we need light, we need space, we need convenience. Toward the development of the type of building which fulfills our requirements, and at the same time is a thing of beauty, this State Library and Historical Building makes an honest contribution. For this, the architects, as well as the Building Commission, deserve recognition at our hands.

With this building, I believe we may say that the State of Indiana has definitely adopted a program of construction which will commend itself to both its present and its future citizens. The capitol building itself, spacious, massive, solidly built, is to be devoted primarily to the three constitutional departments of government, the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. Within its walls, the representatives of the people assemble to embody in laws the wishes of the people. There the Governor is to preside over the execution of the laws and the courts are to interpret them. Space and facilities for the fulfillment of these duties and the exercise of these powers are the first consideration in the use of the capitol building. The General Assembly, the Executive office, the Supreme and Appellate Courts, belong in the capitol and are to be taken care of there. So far as

there is space available, administrative offices also, are accommodated in the State House. But, as this space is exhausted, and as resources are available, administrative offices and the departments which render general services, services other than purely governmental, are to be provided with modern office space in other buildings than the capitol. It may be possible, in the course of time, to develop a plaza between the capitol grounds and the canal, to be occupied by buildings serving these purposes. This is not the time for the consideration of such a development, but it is one of the possibilities which must be taken into account in any long time planning for public buildings.

It is gratifying that such an attractive building can be constructed, as completely as this has been, of Indiana materials. This is a state building, not only because it was built, and will be used, by the state, but because it comes almost entirely from the people and from the soil of the state. It is encased in Indiana limestone. It is finished in Indiana walnut, and its principal monumental feature, this foyer, is walled in the soft, warm coloring of Indiana sandstone. The whole structure will be a standing illustration of the variety of the products of this state, of its self-sufficiency, and the development of both its human and natural resources.

Indiana never has, and never will, place an embargo upon the exchange of goods with other states, nor do our people resent fair exchange with foreign countries, but it is both fair and desirable for us to use what we have for those purposes which it will serve, before going to foreign parts for materials which only too often would prove inferior to those we ourselves already have. We have, perhaps, been a little tardy in adopting this procedure. Indiana limestone was not used extensively, nor could it have been called the "nation's building stone" until the last generation, though during the whole hundred years of the railroad era, the hills of Lawrence, Monroe and adjacent counties have held an abundant supply

which might have been utilized from the first. Only in the last three or four years has the beauty and the availability of St. Meinrad sandstone been utilized for interior finish. Hardwood has been imported from the tropics and from other states, for purposes for which Indiana walnut and other hardwood trees of this state would give the most beautiful interior finish in the world.

We have referred to the building of the first capitol at Indianapolis. The thought of that time brings to mind the story of Samuel Merrill, the state treasurer, who in 1825 transported the state records from Corydon to Indianapolis. He brought his household goods in one wagon and the state records in another. State records, state resources, state duties, state operations, have increased enormously since those days. The transformation is not unfairly represented by comparison of the contents of this building, occupying a quarter of a square, with the contents of Samuel Merrill's wagon in 1825. The state library, provided for by the General Assembly that same year, was then a little collection of books kept by the Secretary of State for the use of state officials and members of the General Assembly in their leisure hours. I have heard that the more interesting books in this collection, small as it was, had a habit of disappearing without trace. It is not out of place at this time and in this presence, to cite briefly some of the developments which have taken place in these one hundred nine years, and some of the functions that today we expect our library and historical division to fulfill.

The preservation of state records is as essential to good government as the keeping of records is to the permanent and successful conduct of any large business. I do not mean merely the records of the days' or the years' transactions, but the books and documents in which all the development and transactions of state government are recorded. There has been irreparable loss in this respect. Important papers have been lost within a few years of the time they were drawn up. The crowded condition of

the offices and store rooms in the various capitols in use since Indiana Territory was organized in 1800, has indeed made almost impossible any systematic preservation of papers not in active use. These moves, proverbially equivalent to a fire, made heavy inroads on papers the offices had tried to preserve.

The multiplicity of the agencies created in times past by the General Assembly and the transfer of functions from one office to another has added to the confusion and to the loss of records. By the grouping of all executive and administrative offices into eight departments, in one or the other of which every activity of the state government can be appropriately carried on, this confusion and this loss ought to be greatly lessened. The perplexed citizen or government official need not try to keep up with the divisions of functions among scores and even hundreds of bureaus, commissions and agencies. The work and the records of each will be grouped in one or the other of the major departments in which they naturally belong: the executive department, and the departments of state, of audit and control, the treasury department, the departments of law, education, public works, and commerce and industries.

The provision in this building for the custody of state papers will make it possible for the various offices of the state to deposit here their important material which is no longer in active use. Most of the state offices are so cramped for space that it is all they can do to keep their current papers in order and accessible.

Yet all of them have records and papers from past years which are needed only very rarely but which may occasionally be badly needed. These older papers can be stored and still be accessible in the rooms now provided here for archives.

Not only the records but the general history of the state is of importance, both to those charged with the administration of the government and to citizens generally. We can understand our present institutions and our present situation only by a knowl-

edge of how these institutions and this situation came about. This knowledge can be acquired only by the collection and use of hundreds and thousands of sources of information; letters, diaries, local histories, biographical and historical articles, drawings, photographs, and the infinite variety of other materials from which the life of the past has to be reconstructed. This building and the staff which administers it will give a great impetus to the collection of this material. I am sure that in addition to those books which the state will be able to buy, many private collections will from time to time be placed here to insure their preservation and to make them available to those who want to use them.

I conceive it to be also a proper function of the state library to supplement the city, county, university, college, and school libraries of the state. No one library can hope to acquire all important publications. Each local and institutional library must confine itself to the books most generally used by its constituency. Many books, especially rare and very valuable ones, will never be asked for in many libraries, and but seldom in any library. The accumulation of such material in a place from which it can be sent as needed to local libraries, is the only economical, indeed, the only possible method of meeting this situation. More and more I hope it will be possible for the state library to fill this place in library administration throughout the state.

The setting apart of one of the important rooms of this building for the William Henry Smith Memorial Library of the Indiana Historical Society is a step in this direction. The Historical Society, with an endowment provided for its library, is in position to acquire rare and expensive documents and publications which will not otherwise be available anywhere in the state or perhaps even in the whole country. It will not only supplement the collection of historical material in the different cities of the state but will supplement the state's own collection. I look forward with pleasure to the increased use of all of this mate-

rial in the beautiful and convenient room which the Smith Historical Library now occupies.

In the last two years it has been borne in upon me, as never before that many of the rural sections of the state, miles removed from centers of population, are in danger of losing the very possibility of educational facilities. It has been one of the principal objectives of this administration that the public schools in these sections of the state should not be closed, nor curtailed to the point of inefficiency. They need not only schools, but they need library service as well. This need, to some extent, is supplied, and will, I hope, to an increasing extent be supplied by the traveling libraries of this state library. These traveling libraries make it possible for almost any community or rural district to obtain the books in which the best of literature and at least a modicum of science and general information is to be found. I hope we may look forward to the time when no person, not to say, no community, will be without this sort of library service.

The extension division of the state library, administered from this building, affords help to the smaller local libraries of the state through training library attendants, through advising the trustees, through keeping up the standard of library service. This central institution involves no overlapping of functions but is a potent influence for the education of the entire citizenship of Indiana, and I am sure, with this equipment, will be an ever and ever stronger influence.

This library has long been a depository for United States Government publications. The publications issued in almost any one month nowadays would probably have mired Treasurer Merrill's wagon in the first bog he encountered on the wretched roads he traversed in 1825, if they had not broken down the wagon before it started. The very mass of these publications discourages many persons from their use. It is the fashion in some quarters to ridicule them but, personally, I do not think the practice

justifiable. The results of some of the best scientific work of the country is disseminated in the publications of the various bureaus of the United States Government. Perhaps none of them appeal to every reader, but I know of very few of them which do not contain valuable information for many readers. Reports of investigating committees and commissions of both the federal and the state governments usually contain more accurate, more complete, and more authoritative information and opinions than are to be found in popular magazine articles covering the same ground, which are devoured by the very persons who mistakenly ignore the government publications. A relatively complete collection of government publications, (I believe librarians refer to them as "P. D.'s") developed in the state library and collected here in the future, will always be of inestimable value to those interested in public and scientific problems and to the state itself.

Over and above all of the technical services, upon which I have dwelt, this library, and the treasures it contains, will stand for the promotion of general culture. It will be one of the greatest agencies in the state for adult education. Men and women, trained by our educational institutions in the use of their brains and in the use of the complicated instruments of learning which are rapidly being multiplied, will find here a means of applying their intelligence and training to the problems of adult citizenship. They will find here the means of making a continual contribution to the advance of civilization, the responsibility for which rests upon them.

This state has a fine literary tradition. From the time of John Finley's "The Hoosier's Nest," and Sarah T. Bolton's "Indiana," down through the widespread circulation of Lew Wallace's *Ben-Hur* and James Whitcomb Riley's poems of childhood and rural life, to our own contemporaries, George Ade, Meredith Nicholson, Booth Tarkington, and the historical work of Albert J. Beveridge, cut short at the height of its power, this state has justly prized its

literary output as one of its finest possessions. I am not sure that literature gains its inspiration from libraries, nor that great books are produced by the assembling of a multitude of books, but, surely, the reading of good literature is a necessary background for the best of creative work. Certainly, also, in these days, an appreciative and a reading public is the surest support and incentive for fresh, creative work. It is not a vain hope that in these great stack rooms, in this beautiful foyer, and in the richly finished reading rooms, the muses of history and literature will kindle in many a Hoosier mind thoughts and emotions which will find their expression in utterances and in writing worthy of a place in the literature of the world.

In addition to the state library, this building houses the Historical Bureau, and for a time, at least, the Department of Conservation. To the former we look for the promotion of historical mindedness and of the study of the history of the state; for the publication of historical records which are of general value, and for making generally available the means for the understanding of the development of the state.

To the latter we look for leadership in the preservation of our natural resources, in the reforestation of denuded and eroded areas, in the continuance of abundance of fish and game, for which the state has been famous, for the parks and historical monuments which give recreation and education to hundreds of thousands of people from all over the United States, and for help in the protection of our crops and our fruits from the ravages of pests which are continually endangering them. It is not too much to say that this work of conservation and protection is a veritable war, a war which in the long run, may prove the most important of the wars waged by our federal and state governments, a war in which the prosperity and even life of humanity itself, is at stake, a war which evokes and enlists as much patriotism and heroism as any conflict against human foes.

If I have dwelt more upon the work which is to be done in this building than upon the building itself, it is because work is always more important than equipment for work. The completion of this building, perfect as it is, is not the culmination, but the beginning of real achievement. In accepting the building from the Building Commission for the State of Indiana, I am glad to say that I am proud of this new addition to the equipment of the state, but I am even more concerned with the thought of the service which the agencies of the state, now entering into the use of the

building, shall render. This fine building is not so much a source of pride, as it is a challenge to render to the state and to its people the greatest possible return. This is the meaning of the dedication of this, our new State Library and Historical Building.

Following the address of Governor McNutt, Mr. Thompson declared the building formally opened to the public, and invited all present to inspect it. The members of the Commission received the public informally, and the remainder of the afternoon was given over to inspection of the building by the public.

INDIANA LIBRARY TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION

26th Annual Meeting

OFFICERS

R. G. Bradshaw, Delphi, President
Mrs. Geo. W. Blair, Mishawaka, Vice-President
Mrs. Geo. K. Bridwell, Bloomington, Sec'y-Treas.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mrs. J. F. Brennehan, Columbia City
Mrs. Donald Alexander, Rushville.
Mrs. Ora Doyle, Clinton
Claude R. Stoops, Nappanee

The Indiana Library Trustees' Association met in Indianapolis at the Hotel Lincoln, Nov. 14, 15, 1934. In a short executive meeting Wednesday morning tentative plans were made for work to be carried on during the coming Legislature. Mr. Bradshaw, the President, presided at this meeting and Mrs. Ora Doyle of Clinton, Mrs. George Blair of Mishawaka, Mrs. Donald Alexander of Rushville, Mrs. J. F. Brennehan of Columbia City, Hazel Warren of the State Library, Mrs. George Bridwell of Bloomington, were present.

The first session of the Association opened at 2 p. m. in the Lincoln room, at which time Philip Zoercher of the State Tax Board was introduced by the Presi-

dent, Mr. Bradshaw. Mr. Zoercher discussed the present tax law in which the property tax is set at \$1.50 in towns and cities and \$1.00 in counties. He said it would not be possible to remove the emergency clause in this law and have fixed rates of \$1.50 and \$1.00 unless there could be an even distribution of wealth. Ohio tested this out and found it true. So the last legislature fixed the rate and then put in the emergency clause, knowing the people wanted such a rate but it would have to be worked out. He stated that it is quite necessary that the functions of government be carried on and that schools and libraries be kept open. It is very necessary to have the emergency clause because we do not have uniform wealth and uniform conditions throughout the state. It is the business of the State Tax Board to correct inequalities as far as possible but values must be assessed right. To limit this Board in this matter would cripple the state. Officers should see how much service they can give, not how much money they can spend. Mr. Zoercher asked librarians to carry a smile into the libraries and do their best.

Mr. Bradshaw in continuing this question said if taxes are held to the \$1.50 and

\$1.00 limit library service cannot be rendered as the public wants unless some other income is found and so if a new scheme is developed, as trustees we want our part in it. Dr. Deputy not being present, Walter Crothers of Albion, took up the subject. He emphasized the trustees' responsibility in getting funds to carry on ordinary service and to have that service continued. Until some other method is available for support, the word emergency should be left in the law. Mrs. Donald Alexander of Rushville gave the report of the Legislative Committee and announced such committees from both librarians and trustees would meet together at the close of the meeting. She emphasized the point that trustees must take a stand—it is their job to safeguard the interests of the libraries.

J. A. Howard of Hammond and Frank H. Whitmore of East Chicago were introduced. Mr. Whitmore as President of I. L. A. and chairman of the joint legislative committee said there is no certainty the emergency clause will be stricken out of the tax law, but it is a thing to provide for. Financial support for libraries in the future is a thing to be watched. Legislation and planning for future growth of libraries go together. The I. L. A. pledged \$300.00 for work to be done during the coming Legislature and individual libraries will be asked later for support of this work. The trustees must take their share. Mrs. Brenneman made a motion that this body accept and endorse the report of the Legislative Committee and pledge \$100.00,—motion carried. Mr. Bradshaw took up each point of the report and general discussion followed. Many points were brought out—cooperation of trustees; definite plan necessary in case the emergency clause is removed; indifference of tax boards; removing mandatory law took away some of our rights as trustees; librarians as educators—to a little less degree than teachers; not condemning the \$1.50 tax law but asking some means of support be found for libraries; contacting tax

boards; knowing our legislators and how they stand.

Mrs. Winslow of Bloomington endorsed certification of librarians and said she came to this meeting to volunteer the support of the State P.T.A. to the library cause during the coming Legislature. T. A. Dicus of Swayzee said the functions of libraries and schools cannot be segregated and state aid should be asked for both—largely a matter of arousing higher minded citizens against professional tax cutters. Mrs. Murray, president of the Indiana Congress of Parent-Teacher Clubs, promised the support of that body. Miss Evelyn Craig and Mrs. Alexander both gave the support of Federation of Women's Clubs of Indiana to the library cause at this time. The following committees were appointed:

Nominations—Mrs. Ethel B. McQueen, West Lafayette; A. G. Slocum, East Chicago; Mrs. George C. Baum, Akron.

Resolutions—Mrs. J. C. Chaney, Sullivan; H. F. Kepner, Corydon; Mrs. Marjorie Wagner, Warsaw.

Auditing—Mrs. E. A. Streeter, LaGrange; Mrs. W. C. Patterson, Angola; W. A. Schanlaub, Kentland.

The dinner meeting was held in the Travertine Room at 6:30 with Mrs. George Blair presiding. During the dinner we were favored with music by Annabelle Sherrick and Halsie Warren. Following the dinner Floyd I. McMurray, Superintendent of Public Instruction, spoke in a very instructive and interesting way of one of his travels which he chose to call "A trip to the land of the midnight sun." The next feature of the evening was a little play, "It happened in a library," dramatic sketch, put on by the Warren players and coached by Hazel B. Warren. This proved highly entertaining and showed trustees how to conduct a board meeting.

The Association met again Thursday morning at 10 o'clock in the Lincoln room. The report of the auditing committee was given and the treasurer's accounts were reported correct. The treasurer's report was given and accepted. A motion was made

and carried that our contributing membership dues of \$25.00 be paid to A. L. A. Mrs. Donald Alexander gave a résumé of the work of the Legislative Committee for the benefit of those not present the day before. In the absence of Gov. McNutt, Lieut. Gov. Clifford Townsend talked on the tax situation, especially that part of it relative to libraries. He very clearly stated the facts and expressed a sympathetic attitude towards libraries and their work. He expressed his interest both as a taxpayer and a public official. He traced the growth of the property tax and explained that the \$1.50 law was passed to stop the sole supply of taxes from property and made it necessary to find some other source. The demand to take out the emergency clause is sure to come up during the next Legislature, and it will be necessary to provide some other means of supplying of funds and to take income from some other source and spread it so libraries can be supported before they are lost. Mr. Townsend expressed the Governor's interest in libraries as a means of education. In his opinion there is still income enough in Indiana in spite of the depression to support schools and libraries and some means must be found to get it. Even in pioneer days Indiana provided education—churches and schools—and now we need sufficient money to support churches, schools and libraries.

Having waited till this session when more trustees would be present, Mr. Bradshaw gave his message at this time:

"In these somewhat troubled times I am sure we should all be grateful for the leadership of one who is both an educator and a patron of education—one with whom we share a pardonable pride in the fact that our schools have remained open and continued to function in the face of difficulties that have been too much for many of our sister commonwealths.

"Regarding our public library system as an educational and recreational institution supplementing our schools we take pride in such service as we have been able to render, especially in these last few years

when we have tried to meet unprecedented demands with greatly reduced revenues.

"The schools generally have come to depend on us more and more for cooperative service and the unemployed have made good use of our facilities for entertainment and instruction. As we enter another winter many adult education projects look to us for material and in some cases for suitable places of assembly.

"In the face of a great social program so recently endorsed and confirmed it is inconceivable that our libraries should be permitted to fall behind. I know you are willing—I trust you will be able to serve.

"In recent years reduced levies and decreased valuations have combined to cut our financial support to a point where some of us have been forced to shorten hours radically or even to close entirely for weeks or months. Most of us have been able to buy very few new books for several years past. Now we hear reports that various groups will advocate the elimination of the emergency feature from the statute providing maximum property tax levies. That justice demanded some shifting of tax burdens is, I believe, generally conceded. As a group we are not proposing or opposing any particular tax. Most of us have had to plead with county boards for levies barely adequate to keep us going and we are not unmindful of public clamor against taxes in general. We know that our problems, so large in our eyes, are but one factor—perhaps a minor one—in the whole structure of taxation that confronts our government. We do not expect a solution of this problem today or tomorrow—perhaps not by this legislature.

"We ask only our small share with the conviction that we give our public value received. In the last four years we have exhausted any surplus we may have had. Any interruption in our support must mean an interruption in service—perhaps a permanent setback to our work.

"Our 224 libraries represent a very considerable investment. Our routine expenditures represent useful employment to hun-

dreds of librarians and janitors and the producers of goods and services.

"Last year there was a public works project especially for unemployed librarians. What better work can they do than the regular services which our people expect. We refuse to believe that we are not to have our part in the great social program that the nation is entering upon.

"Last year our own small library expended a P. W. A. allotment amounting to \$650. This amount would carry on our regular work under the present budget for more than three months. The work was useful and was appreciated but it was not necessary—certainly not in the degree that our regular work is necessary. This year we are to have more public works—in our own community nearly \$100,000 has been allotted for road improvements. We ask a mere pittance for a long established service to all our people. We refuse to believe that we cannot afford libraries."

"Citizens' Support for Library Activities" was discussed by Mrs. J. F. Brenne-man. She said the essential value of library service must be sold to the public in general and law makers in particular. The maintenance of libraries depends on the enlightenment of the people. A vital and outstanding phase of citizen's support should be the organized effort of a library-conscious public to see that its public institution for adult education, the public library, has adequate financial support. In some places the public does not know where the money comes from and how it is spent. Trustees should make the public understand that library service is more essential now than ever before. Difficulty in getting support is lack of understanding—trustees and librarians must spread the knowledge to the public in general. These are not days for following precedents too carefully or for negative minded trustees but rather for qualities of forward mindedness and the will to attain on the part of those who mould the destinies of libraries.

Miss Craig of Vevay spoke on "Conditions today in public libraries of the State."

Increased leisure will make tremendous demands on libraries and the safety of our country depends on how this leisure is controlled. The tax for 221 tax supported libraries in the state has dropped 30% in two years. The tax generally this last year remained the same or showed a slight increase—showing the public realizes a little more the necessity of libraries. With loss in valuation libraries get less even if rates remain the same and so we need to ask for adequate state support. The Indiana Federation of Clubs, of which Miss Craig is a trustee, is most friendly towards libraries. These clubs are concentrating on educational efforts and Miss Craig read a resolution pledging their support to I. L. A. and I. L. T. A. After the luncheon Bertha Ashby of Bloomington spoke on "Certification for librarians." She gave a brief history of certification in other states and this one. It was first a voluntary certification but there were flaws as it was impossible to measure definitely each person's success. This at least brought the different points to the attention of those interested. If certification is provided by the legislature these points will be taken care of. It should apply to small towns and libraries as well as larger ones. Certification will mean greater efficiency and a greater future for young people who will then take up the profession more readily. Lewis Taylor was quoted as saying the attitude of the Farm Bureau is most favorable to libraries—the doors of schools and libraries must be kept open. Libraries can help the Farm Bureau in its adult education projects.

The question was brought up of how best to handle the money to be paid by libraries for legislative work the same to be purely voluntary gift. A motion was made and carried that a bill be sent to each library which in turn is to handle it as is possible.

The nominating committee in their report asked that the present officers be re-elected for the coming year. Rev. Beutenmueller of Mishawaka took the chair while the motion was made and carried. The President announced the present legislative committee

would serve during the coming year. The committee on resolutions gave the following report:

Report of Resolutions Committee

Whereas: The 25th Annual Convention of the Indiana Library Trustees' Association, about to close, has been one of peculiar importance to the maintenance of libraries throughout the state, and of gratifyingly large attendance, and

Whereas: These results were attained only by the sustained efforts of the committees in charge, and by those taking part in the programs and discussions.

Therefore, be it resolved: That this Association express its grateful appreciation to all of those who have made this meeting such a signal success, and especially to

Louis J. Bailey of the State library for his excellent arrangement of all details; and to

Hazel Warren of the State library, not only for her efficient work in connection with this meeting, and her ever-ready help through all the past year, but also for her charming good fellowship by means of which each member is made to feel personally welcomed;

To the management of the Hotel Lincoln for its hospitality towards guests and for the excellent arrangements made for this meeting;

To the Indianapolis Convention and Publicity Bureau for the services rendered in connection with registration;

To Stewarts, Incorporated, for their gift of the printed programs;

To the Parent-Teachers' Association who, through their representatives, Mrs. Winslow and Mrs. Murray, tendered their willingness to support the Association in its forthcoming legislative program;

To the very capable speakers—Philip Zoercher of the State Tax Board, Floyd I. McMurray, Superintendent of Public In-

struction, for their helpful and entertaining talks;

To the Warren Players and to the musicians who so generously added to our pleasure, and sum of knowledge;

And to the officers and committees for their efficient management during the past year.

Be it further resolved: That each trustee heartily support and individually work for the program of the legislative committee.

Be it further resolved: That thanks be tendered Lieutenant Governor Clifford Townsend for his clear statement of the tax situation, and for his sympathetic attitude toward the library;

And also may our appreciation be expressed to the State Federation of Women's Clubs for its resolution in support of library legislation, presented by its trustee, Evelyn Craig;

And also to Mr. Taylor of the Farm Bureau for his assurance of their approval of library aims.

In submitting this report your committee recommends its adoption. It further recommends that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Association, and that the secretary send letters of appreciation to such individuals and groups as are mentioned herein.

ELLA M. CHANEY,
HARRY F. KEPNER,
MARJORIE F. WAGNER,
Committee on Resolutions.

This was the largest gathering of Library Trustees ever held within the State, showing great interest on the part of trustees in the future of our libraries. Nearly one hundred and fifty members attended and seventy libraries were represented. The meeting adjourned after these very profitable sessions.

—MRS. GEORGE K. BRIDWELL, *Sec-Treas.*

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ROUND TABLE REPORTS

REFERENCE AND COLLEGE ROUND TABLE

Mrs. Vera Cooper, DePauw University, Greencastle, acted as chairman. The first paper was read by Mary Orr, DePauw University, on Indiana State publications. She emphasized the importance of state documents in reference work and a knowledge of them and their departments and bureaus of issue. She also explained how the re-organization of state government in 1933 necessitates the study of the departments and attention to the changes of names. Especially helpful for this study is "An executive order by Paul V. McNutt, governor, effecting a re-organization of state government in Indiana. Effective April 15, 1933." The Indiana Year Book is also very useful for this. She mentioned some of the significant changes in departments of issue and publications, for example, *Outdoor Indiana*, superseding the bulletins of the Divisions of Forestry, Fish and Game, and Entomology. The methods of distribution of many of the documents through the State library and the few exceptions to these were explained. The best check lists are R. R. Bowker's "State Publications," D. W. Howe's "Descriptive catalogue, 1890" and the Indiana State library catalogue. A much needed bibliography bringing these up to date has been begun at the State library. The LIBRARY OCCURRENT has a list of current publications, as also the *Monthly check list of state publications* put out by the Library of Congress. Nellie M. Coats of the State library is compiling a history of the state departments on cards which will be very helpful.

Estella Wolf, Indiana University library, Bloomington, presented a paper on "Sources for statistics in current economic problems," in which she stressed the importance of statistics in reference work and stated the sources for them. Periodical indexes are most useful in getting at current statistical information. There are many good bibliographies of statistics published within recent

years. The best ones are "The World Depression," a bibliography compiled by William W. Shirley for the New York public library, 1934, "What to read on current and economic affairs," compiled by Rose L. Vornelker of the Cleveland public library, 1932, and one to come out soon—"Static versus dynamic economics" by Charles F. Roos. Particularly interesting are the publications of the Brookings Institution—v. 1, "America's capacity to produce"; v. 2, "America's capacity to consume," already published; v. 3, "Relation of consumption and production," not yet out; and v. 4, which will be a summary of the investigation. Primary sources for statistics are the volumes of the Fifteenth Census; secondary are the familiar World Almanac, Statesman's Year Book, American Year Book, etc. Miss Wolf stated that the Division of Research and Statistics in the Federal Emergency Relief Administration is doing very important statistical work, as is also the Civil Works Administration. The "Guide to the Official Publications of the New Deal Administration," published by the American Library Association, 1934, is a splendid aid. The "Agricultural Economics Bibliography, no. 38," published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, is an important bibliography. Other sources are F. A. Ogg's "Research in humanistic and social sciences," 1928, and "American foundations and their fields," published in 1932 by the Twentieth Century Fund.

"How can we increase the college student's interest in books" was the subject of the paper read by Mary Louise Fitton of Hanover College library. The student's interest may be increased, she stated, through the library, the faculty, book clubs, and classes in recreational reading. The library can sponsor display cases, open stacks for students, cooperative bulletin boards to which the students and faculty contribute material, exhibits of rare books. If the library lacks funds, rental collections may be

established, or book clubs can buy books with club dues, the books later to be given to the library. The college paper can run a book-note or book review column. The student may also be interested through the curriculum by the establishment of recreational reading courses for which credit may be given. This has been tried very successfully in Hanover and other colleges and universities. Miss Fitton also stated that one of the most attractive means of interesting the student in reading is the browsing room, which has been instituted in several college and university libraries, one outstanding success being that at Yale. After graduation the extension service and alumni associations play a large part in keeping the student's interest through reading courses and lists sent out to them. The library and librarians can be of invaluable service to young people in aiding them to continue their education begun in college, or perhaps not yet begun, but postponed or discontinued altogether for financial reasons.

Following Miss Fitton's paper, Mrs. Cooper led the discussion on browsing rooms, the attempts that have been made by several colleges and universities to maintain them, and the varied success achieved.

—VIRGINIA COPPES, *Secretary.*

CHILDREN'S AND INTERMEDIATES' ROUND TABLE

The Turkish room of Hotel Oliver in South Bend was filled to capacity, when Carrie E. Scott of Indianapolis on the morning of Oct. 25, 1934, opened the meeting for an informal panel discussion of "Replacement of juvenile books." In her usual delightful and humorous way, she introduced the subject of such vital interest to all active in children's work at the present time. Miss Scott's able assistants in the discussion were: Marian A. Webb, Fort Wayne, Evelyn R. Sickels, Indianapolis, Caroline Dunn, Connorsville, Lois Henze, Bloomington, Bess Glawe, East Chicago. Each selected from different types of libraries, so as to throw light and clearness over a wide

and diversified range of problems. The following questions were brought up by Miss Scott and discussed with her assistants:

1. *Funds.* How to divide the available funds between new books and replacements. Miss Webb felt a year ago that they needed the replacements of certain books more than new ones and now that the new books had been neglected, however, it would all depend on the conditions of the shelves, the need in the branches, etc. Miss Dunn explained that the library, being situated in a stricken area, with very limited funds, had not been able to keep a settled policy, but that they replaced what they could not get along without. Miss Glawe said that funds were limited and uncertain, so they replaced what was needed and tried to add a few new titles. Miss Henze said the replacement problem was not as vital in Bloomington as perhaps other places as the library was a newer one, but usually one-fourth was spent for replacements.

Miss Scott said that Indianapolis used two-thirds for necessary replacements, requiring a certain number to be recent books.

2. *What to do with catalog cards in the file, showing books that the library did not have but eventually hoped to replace.* Miss Dunn felt that the cards should be taken out and placed in alphabetic file. The general decision was: removal of the catalog cards until replaced in order to keep the file up to date.

3. *What types of books to replace without question? a. Books for the pre-school child.* Miss Glawe felt the purchase of picture books could be cut down, although there were a few essential ones that every library should have, books with authentic foreign background and representative artists such as Greenaway, Boyd-Smith, Hader, Beskow, Gag, etc. Miss Sickels also advocated standard illustrators. The first impressions of a child were very important. She had, however, bought ten cent books that were both attractive and useful. Miss Webb thought there was a place for the ten cent picture books, but advised caution in the matter. The child saw the ten cent

books in the school, had them in the home, and needed the well-selected and standard picture books of the library. Miss Sickels had found some of the ten cent books useful as picture material, several she had cut and mounted, e. g., "Houses around the world." Miss Scott pointed out as serviceable the ten cent books on ferns, flowers, birds, etc. and also that they could be obtained for thirty cents rebound. Replacement of the A. L. A. list for the pre-school child was recommended. The general decisions were: the library ought to have some good standard picture books; rather sacrifice on other lines in order to keep up standards, but a few ten cent books might be useful.

b. *Picture story books.* The general opinion was that books by Petersham, Dalglish, Field, Lathrop, Bianco, etc., were useful, lovely and popular and should be found in every library.

c. *Reader-primers, when to buy and when not.* Different opinions were voiced. So many things had to be considered. The local school curriculum should be studied, the changes in methods kept track of. It would seem reasonable to expect the school to buy the text-books and the library the supplementary readers, e. g., Toby Chipmunk, Cinder, the cat, Kitten-Kat, Friends on the farm, etc.

The general decision was: Replace the story-book type rather than the text-book type.

"The library manual for elementary schools," prepared under the direction of the Inspection Division, was checked for the first purchase up to the third and fourth grades with the cooperation of the audience.

4. *What to do with books hopelessly out of date but containing good informational material.* Miss Dunn made them last as long as possible, and did not replace if something better had been published. Miss Sickels clipped reliable material, songs, customs, habits, etc.

5. *What to do when the school has a revised course of study.* Miss Henze replaced with newer material if possible, otherwise, replaced old material as long as money

lasted. Miss Webb felt that sometimes the school might require too much of the library and that the library could not be expected to supplement all the readers.

Miss Sickels wanted text-books in a selected way. If reference questions were to be answered, material along the line of the curriculum must be had. Miss Scott emphasized the importance of cooperation with the schools in this matter and also the necessity of keeping in touch with the course of study.

The general decision was to let the school buy text-books and the library supplement with books that might be of general use. Miss Sickels presented a list of newer non-fiction books, which she suggested might take the place of some of the older ones:

Arnett: Takamere and Tonhon, Beckley-Cardy Co., 1932.....	.70
Boulton: Traveling with the Birds, Donohue, 1933.....	1.50
Brandeis: Mitz and Fritz in Germany, Flanagan, 1933.....	.68
Brown: Alexander, the Tale of a Monkey, Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1934...	2.00
Burns: Stories of Shepherd Life, American Book Co., 1934.....	.52
Carpenter: Our Little Friends of the Arabian Desert, Adi and Hamda, American Book Co., 1934.....	.72
Carpenter: Our Neighbors Near and Far, American Book Co., 1933.....	.96
Comfort: Peter and Nancy in Europe, Beckley-Cardy Co., 1933.....	.75
Dalglish: America Travels, Macmillan, 1933.....	2.00
Dodge: Our Country and American Neighbors, Rand, 1932.....	1.20
Dodge: Our Neighbors Across the Seas, Rand, 1932.....	1.20
Dodge: World and Its People, Rand, 193288
Fisher: Coffee-pot Face, McBride, 1933	1.50
Floherly: Fire Fighters, Doubleday, 1933	1.50
Hosford: Sons of the Volsungs, Macmillan, 1932	3.50

Lamprey: All the Ways of Building, Macmillan, 1932	3.50
Lansing: Man's Long Climb, Little, 1933	1.75
Listisky: Thomas Jefferson, Viking, 1933	2.50
McConnell: United States in the Modern World, Rand, 1933.....	1.32
Muller: How They Carried the Goods, Dodd, 1932	3.00
Packard: Nations as Neighbors, Macmillan, 1930	1.92
Petersham: Story Book of Things We Use, Winston, 1933.....	2.50
Pinchot: Giff and Stiff in the South Seas, Winston, 1933.....	2.00
Rourke: Davy Crockett, Harcourt, 1934	2.50
St. Clair: Transportation, Dodd, 1933	2.50
Washburne: Letters to Channy, Rand, 1932	2.00
Way: Log of Betsy Ann, McBride, 1933	2.75

The chairman's opinion was expressed on the following types of books: a. Photographic readers highly recommended. b. Brandeis books were not especially literary, but very useful. c. Burgess books; although humanized animal books were not generally recommended, these books had enough background of nature study to be useful. d. Mystery stories, about which she said that the Indianapolis public library had a list of mystery stories, which was a list of good general stories. As every good story has an element of mystery they all might serve the mystery purpose.

Mary F. Cain of Indianapolis presented book reviews of new books for older boys and girls. She pointed out that the happy union of content and form of the books of today was a result of keen interest on the part of the librarians. The publishers greatly appreciated this interest, gave the cooperation and modern youth is now receiving the colorful results. She included Roland, the Warrior, by Collier and Eaton, Adventures of Davy Crockett, by Crockett, Davy Crockett, by Rourke, Little Era in

Old Russia, by Skariatina, House of Her Own, by Allee, and Lucinda, by Hunt.

As a delightful surprise Miss Scott announced the presence of two Indiana authors, and introduced to the audience Mrs. Marjorie Allee, the author of many well known and much read books, and Mabel Leigh Hunt, the author of Lucinda.

Mrs. Allee vividly told about the difficulties of finding fresh and individual material for her books and made a sincere plea for preservation of material on local history in the various libraries.

Miss Hunt told her interested listeners how her mother's memories had furnished her with valuable and authentic material, how many a little incident, related in the book, was taken from real life, and how her own childhood impressions and feelings from the old Quaker community had made it possible for her to create this account of the simple, happy life of our ancestors.

—INGER BOYE, *Secretary*.

EXTENSION WORK ROUND TABLE

The round table on Extension work convened Thursday morning in the building of the Northern Indiana Historical Society with William J. Hamilton, Gary, as chairman. Mr. Hamilton introduced Julia Wright Merrill, Chief of the public library division, American Library Association, who spoke on "Planning in the library extension field." She asked, "How may libraries meet needs?" Book funds having been decreased largely, creates a greater necessity for well-developed planning, making things happen. She stated that there are nearly 1,000,000 people in Indiana without library service and advised that we have larger units of service; combining two counties as in California, making library opportunities available to a greater population. Something other than property taxes is needed to support libraries—a state supplement should be considered, for our libraries are expected to operate through a season of drought as well as in good times. A comparison of road and library funds should be made and the great difference noted. The Rosenwald

Fund, which is used in the south, was explained. If taxing units were combined and a five to ten year program outlined, a larger area could be included and better library service given.

Margaret Winning, Fort Wayne, discussed "County Work" from the angle of 'Service returns for library extension.' She presented a summary of the yearly reports for the county department and an estimate of the book service to Allen County by townships. This revealed that the value of books sent to each township greatly exceeded the amount of money received from taxation. If we could get our tax-supporting public to compare in dollars and cents, the value of books used in their townships, to the amount of taxes paid to the library by them, we would be one step higher on the ladder of achieving our desired tax rate. She told of their transportation method, books being taken to the schools in buses and teachers' private cars; she left the thought, "Why not make more deposits in corners of the county, as in towns where there are many branches?"

In the absence of Mrs. Dora Mock, Muncie, her paper on "Book wagon service" was read by Elizabeth Hinckley. The book wagon gives several types of service which includes scheduled house to house routes through the township, visiting schools, parks, hospital, adult stations in stores and factories, transporting books from main library branches, collecting gifts of magazines, books, etc. It has helped to solve the problem of reaching all residents of the community by providing books in proper quantity and quality to all who need and want them. One can never know the pleasure derived from these visits until he has travelled with the portable library. Circulation has greatly increased since the book wagon has been in operation. The library ideal of 'the right books for the right person' is more nearly reached with the knowledge which comes from these visits with the book wagon.

"Township residents" was the topic discussed by Mrs. Anne Metzger, South Whit-

ley. She proposed that the librarian who comes in contact with her rural residents has an opportunity to know something of the individual plans of the people so engaged and can secure books they need. If one can place in their hands the book explaining how to do the things they are most interested in, whether it be planning a new crop rotation or preparing the Sunday menu, they will realize there is some value derived from the library. All activities must be sympathetically studied for we make progress only as we attempt to understand the projects in which people are interested. If one is able to enlist active interest and effort of the people in his community the library will be a busy house on the corner.

Marcelle K. Foote, Albion, in speaking about "Township and schools," told of her experiences in that work. Books are transported to the schools by teachers. Many are served in this manner as other members of the family read books taken home by the children. In the school library a mental hygiene shelf is maintained which has no connection with the public library. One deposit station in the township is maintained by the library and books placed there give aid and recreation to nearby residents.

Mr. Hamilton then invited general discussion of all topics. A plea for state aid for libraries was made as something greatly needed throughout Indiana. County extensions should be more widely spread through the rural districts. Many calls come to the state library every day from people over the state who are handicapped by not having access to library facilities. A larger unit plan is needed for greater service.

—JEWELL MOUNT, *Secretary*.

CIRCULATION ROUND TABLE

The round table on circulation met in the Rotary room at noon Thursday with more than one hundred in attendance. After the luncheon, the meeting was called to order by Margaret Hager of Rushville.

Ruth Fedde of Lowell spoke on "The librarian is the reader's adviser." She emphasized the need of the librarian's interest in the people of her community and the idea that she must know her books so well that she may intelligently connect the reader's desire and need with certain books of her collection.

Jane Aspinwall from the Virginia M. Tutt branch library in South Bend spoke on "Our new charging system." She explained the new Gaylord automatic electric charging machine that is in use at the branch. "The machine age," she said, "may now be used in connection with our own library profession."

Alice Van Zanten of Fort Wayne spoke on "Publicity from the loan department." She mentioned many ways of calling books to the attention of the public. She stressed the importance of the quality of circulation rather than the volume. It isn't how much one reads that is as important as what he reads, and how much he gains from his reading. It is the librarian's task to make people aware of the significant part which books may play in their lives.

Orpha Maud Peters of Gary closed the session with an explanation of the self-charging system. She said they were convinced that it afforded a saving of time and a reduction on cost of supplies. It also enables librarians to render more service to patrons in selection of books.

—KATHLYN WADE, *Secretary*.

BINDING AND MENDING ROUND TABLE

Edith Thompson, Frankfort public library, presided at this session, which was attended by forty-eight people. Binderies displayed their materials and some examples of work described in binding and mending papers were also on display.

Mrs. Hilda B. Hartwick of Mishawaka talked on "What and how to bind." She quite thoroughly, though briefly gave the points to consider when having binding

done; e.g.—condition of book, texture of paper, margin, has it been home-mended, and is the book worthwhile to pay for binding and keeping on shelves? She said librarians should give complete directions to the binder as to binding, and explained the method of flush binding magazines at the Mishawaka public library.

"Using pamphlet boxes for serials" was discussed by Muriel Norton, Fort Wayne. Serials, which includes periodicals, newspapers, government documents, publications of learned and other societies, reports of institutions, and annuals—yearbooks, almanacs, etc., are more valuable to the library than ever before, and the librarian must save, select and organize them for practical use in each library.

Government documents are filed according to the document catalogue in special pamphlet boxes in a separate stack room, box labels typed showing department, division, and inclusive numbers contained in each particular box. The boxes are filed alphabetically by department and in order under each department. Most material must be located through the Document catalogue.

Children's and County departments use Gaylord binders for much of their pamphlet material, then file them in pamphlet boxes (broadly classified) with books in the same classification. A set of ten boxes are kept close at hand and pamphlets roughly classified and filed in these boxes as they are received.

At this time with depleted book stocks, reduced budgets and all that goes with them, and on the other hand the wealth of material available free, or for a small sum, often only postage charges, may I say in the familiar words of the typist, "Now is the time for every good librarian to come to the aid of the pamphlet collection."

"Mending and reinforcing maps and manuscripts," was discussed by Myrtle Weatherholt, Crawfordsville. The method used in a smaller library which does not have map cases was given. Envelopes of Kraft paper, heavy grade 21x29 inch en-

velopes in which the maps are placed and filed flat in drawers and used. Large maps are cut in sections and bound with gummed tape leaving an eighth inch between sections for folding. Interesting maps are displayed on bulletin boards and under plate glass on reading tables.

Clubs and missionary societies are loaned maps when wanted to illustrate papers on talks. All free maps are obtained. Torn maps are mended with silk chiffon. Manuscripts are mounted on silk chiffon and filed in folders.

"Reinforcing magazines" was discussed by Ethel Else, Gary. Gary uses with periodicals for reference the method used by the Walden, Mass. public library given in the *Library Journal* May 1, 1921. The magazines are sewed with strong twine through five holes which have been drilled near the edge after the advertising pages have been removed. A heavy Kraft paper cover is cut one inch larger than the volume to be covered. This is pasted and folded back to make a more firm edged cover, the top of the back being reinforced with a strip of cloth. The covers are shellaced and labeled. One volume the size of Harper's takes about one hour to bind and costs about six cents for materials.

"Care of the music collection" was discussed by Mrs. Helen Fraser, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Mrs. Fraser told how their library secured their music collection from clubs, personal friends and other sources. The miscellaneous scores are classified under titles of composers, sheet music classified as a book, with title and author card for circulation.

The Gaylord music folder with gummed hinge is used and the music pasted in. The folder with separate pocket in back of folder is used for numbers having accompaniments.

—MRS. MAYE HUFFMAN JESSUP,
Secretary.

CATALOG AND ACCESSION ROUND TABLE

Mrs. Ethel Krueger, LaGrange public library, presided at this session. The pro-

gram was opened by Marcia Furnas of Indianapolis. Her subject was "Are book shelves keeping pace with the changing world?" "That we want our shelves to keep up with this mad world, I take for granted. The money to pay for them, and the time to find them are another matter. But an ideal of excellence, and vitality and authority we can all have. Hold it fast! In the *Booklist* for September is an article by Helen Haines. She said that the new things are important, but that quality is important as never before, excellence, creative vitality, a fine sense of essentials, of fair play, of proportion, of the need for representing every honest opinion be it conservative or radical is necessary for a truly educative function.

The adult education movement is significant and it behooves us as librarians to be on the front lines, to be informed and able to furnish information in its various fields. Miss Furnas gave a list of books on adult education, economics, sociology and politics, religion, biography, fine arts, and science that would help book shelves keep pace with the changing world.

"Principles underlying the choice of subject headings" was discussed by Dorothy Arbaugh, Indiana State Teachers College, Terre Haute. A subject heading is the term or group of terms used to name a class of subject matter. It must fit the individual book and yet it must be applicable to a whole group of books covering the same field. Good headings must be as simple as possible and yet suited to the needs of the particular type of library. All rules for subject headings have been determined by the need to get across to the user what the library has in the subject he is looking for. The cataloger must see the catalog from the user's point of view and watch for the form his questions take. She must be constantly on the alert for new terms and for new subjects under discussion.

James A. Howard, Hammond public library, said on the subject, "Preparing today for tomorrow," that the best way to do this was to serve the people today the very best we can. He disagreed with some

who believe we should cut down on recreational reading. Give the people what they want when they want it. They are giving their support and have a right to have what they want. The desk attendant keeps a list of the requests, and this acts as a guide in buying and the books are bought in number, according to demand.

The library supplies the student who is taking some course with the books required on his reference list; book clubs are furnished with the books they have selected to read. They are passed from one member to another, the book cards checked by each and the books returned to the library after all members have read them. Missionary groups in the churches are loaned books. Mr. Howard said your books should bring a response from the people. The interest in taxation for support of the library must come from the people, as well as from the staff and trustees.

—MAYME SNIPES, *Secretary.*

I. L. A. RESOLUTIONS, 1934

WHEREAS, the meeting of the Indiana Library Association just ending has meant so much of pleasure as well as profit to all present,

And, WHEREAS, the result has been attained only by means of great effort, planning and management on the part of the officers of the Association, committees and leaders of divisional sessions and round tables,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that this Association express its most grateful appreciation to the following individuals and organizations:

To Ethel Baker, librarian of the South Bend public library and her entire staff for their cordial welcome and gracious hospitality;

To the Board of Trustees of the South Bend library and to the President, George W. Bingham, for the interest they manifested in the meeting of the Indiana Library Association;

To the management of the Oliver Hotel

for the use of space on the mezzanine floor, for registration and other convention purposes;

To Louis J. Bailey, state librarian, for the arrangement and supervision of the book exhibits;

To the newspapers of South Bend, the *News-Times* and the *Tribune*, for their great interest shown in the meeting and for the generous space they allotted to same;

To the Indiana News Company for the printing of the programs, as a courtesy to the Indiana Library Association;

To the Publicity Committee, Ella Hodges and Mary Welborn, for their excellent publicity work;

To the Merchants' Association of South Bend who were responsible for the excellent dance music following the dinner hour and also for the tour of South Bend and Mishawaka, including a stop at the Virginia M. Tutt branch and Mishawaka library;

To the Honorable Samuel B. Pettengill, Third district congressman from Indiana, for his cordial greetings;

To Rabbi S. H. Markowitz of Fort Wayne, for his most inspiring address, "The library and the citizen";

To Ethel F. McCollough, Evansville, and her group of able speakers, in the panel discussion on "Certification";

To Mrs. Grace Osterhus of South Bend, for her unique dinner programs, "Hoosierdom," and also the students of Central High for the printing of these most unusual booklets;

To Mrs. P. E. Nicholls, Mrs. K. E. Kalberer, Mrs. L. F. Fisher, Mrs. John Buzby, accompanist, who rendered beautiful music during the dinner hour;

To the Sounding Brass Trio, Charles Baillie, Robert Hoffman and Fred Wiedman, for their highly entertaining and able discussions of "Fools gold," "Penny dreadfuls" and "Tinsel";

To the surprise guest artists, Mrs. Laura Adams Armer and her husband, Sidney Armer, author and artist of that most remark-

able book, "Waterless Mountain," for their delightful impromptu talks;

To the chairman of Round Tables discussions and all their able speakers for their most interesting discussions;

"Reference and College," Mrs. Vera Cooper, DePauw University, Greencastle

"Work With Children and Intermediates," Carrie E. Scott, Indianapolis

"Extension Work, Northern Indiana Historical Society," William J. Hamilton, Gary

"Circulation," Margaret Hager, Rushville

"Binding and Mending," Edith Thompson, Frankfort

"Catalog and Accession," Ethel Krueger, LaGrange

To the literati of Indiana, Mrs. Marjorie Hill Allee and Mabel Leigh Hunt, for their splendid contributions to children's literature during the year, "A House of Her Own" and "Lucinda, a Little Girl of 1860," and the interest which they personally added to Round Table discussion, conducted by Miss Scott;

To Sister Madeliva, President of St. Mary's College, for the delightful 4 o'clock tea, given for the members of the Association;

To Paul Ryan Byrne, librarian of Notre Dame University for the personally conducted tour of the university and its beautiful art gallery.

To Louis Untermeyer, poet, critic, novelist and anthologist, for his most excellent address, "What Americans read and why," when moments of delightful humor were mingled with those of serious thought;

To J. Christian Day, librarian of the John Crerar library, Chicago, for his charming address, "The Mystery of Hamlet";

To Mrs. Gladys Norton of the Open Book Shop, Elgin, Illinois, for her most timely and interesting "Notes on the newest books";

To all participants in the program who contributed in any way to its success;

And, WHEREAS, the Association has learned with deep regret of the loss of Mrs.

Jennie B. Jessup, LaPorte, Mrs. Cora Bynum, Lebanon, Hazel Burk, Evansville, and Minnie Earl Sears, Lafayette, who devoted years of service to library interests of city, state and nation, and whose passing removes from the ranks of the library profession loyal and efficient workers and severs ties of long standing friendships;

THEREFORE, in submitting this report your committee on resolutions recommends its adoption. It further recommends that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the Association and the secretary of the Association send notification of such to individuals and groups mentioned in said report.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH ROCKWELL, *Chairman.*
ALICE WEEKS.

JUNIOR MEMBERS' SECTION

The Junior Members' Section has thrived and developed during its first year and now shows signs of developing into a lusty and vociferous member of I. L. A. Twenty-five people officiated at its entrance into the library world. Fifty-two people attended the first birthday party which was a luncheon meeting held at the Morningside Hotel in South Bend, on Friday, October 26. Helen Thompson, acting chairman, called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read and the treasurer's report presented. Both were approved as read. Helen Siniff, South Bend, was elected secretary-treasurer for the coming year. Helen Thompson, the former secretary-treasurer, automatically became chairman for the following year.

Ruth Shanks of Indianapolis gave a very interesting report of the Junior Members meeting at the American Library Association, held June 26, at Montreal. The suggestions made by the speakers at the national meeting such as: compiling a diction-

ary of Indian language or a Granger's index to include recent anthologies seem a little ambitious for the Indiana section.

Mary Fretageot of Evansville spoke of the effect of the untrained attendant on the status of the Junior librarian. She said that girls without library training were the first to be dismissed when staff cuts were necessary. The untrained librarian cannot take the place of the trained librarian and is an adjunct rather than a competitor.

Lois Zimmerman of Bloomington talked on the value of library training. In times of depression, when library school is financially difficult to attend, the question arises as to whether it is really worth the effort. She said that there is more to be gained from library school than mere professional training; there are the aims and ideals of library service. Faculty members are close to actual library work. She felt that it had a definite value.

Edith Bradford of Indianapolis discussed the value of experience versus library school training. She suggested that the experienced librarian absorbs theory as she works. The group agreed that more time should be given to practice work in library schools. It was decided that natural aptitude and intuition were more important in library work than mechanical training, in order to find out what the patron wants and to satisfy his needs. It was felt that teachers in library schools had lost touch with the actual problems in a library, and that the library schools should have a small library to use for practice work. The incentive to go to library school has not been strong lately, because the financial returns have not been great enough to justify the expense. After a discussion of the points brought up by the speakers, the meeting was adjourned.

HELEN THOMPSON, *Chairman.*

HELEN SINIFF, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Report of the A. L. A. Committee on Library Administration

The standards for public library administration adopted by the A. L. A. Council in October, 1933, have been scrutinized to determine whether, in the light of changing economic conditions, they are in harmony with the times. The effect of monetary devaluation and price inflation upon the "\$1 per capita" unit of financial support have been studied in this connection. The committee has gone further and has considered the question of the substitution of a more accurate basis of apportionment for the per capita measurement, affected as it is by large foreign born populations, by the presence of other public or semi-public libraries, and by other factors. Measuring the use of the library in terms of registered borrowers and books lent (without recognition of information and research service, because of lack of adequate standard of measurement), and emphasizing the importance of system-

atic discarding in the process of developing a library as a collection of useful books, have been the objects of committee attention.

Conclusions and Recommendations

There is not at present, and perhaps never can be, an exact measuring stick, a tested and established formula, that can be employed in applying standards of equipment, personnel, service, and financial support to each and every public library. The variable elements distinguishing a given library and its community from another—area, population, racial and reading traits, local interests, the presence of other libraries and similar features—together with the flexible and unfixed relationship existing between a public library system and its clientele as compared with a public school system and its pupils, for example, continue to

make accurate common denominators difficult to develop.

At the same time, the mutual interests of librarians, not in sheer imitation, but in the progressive search for common values, require that we continue to search for these instruments. Especially at a time when all social and publicly supported institutions are under scrutiny and are being re-appraised, accurate comparative data are essential.

The "\$1 per capita" standard as the gauge for required income is, at the moment perhaps, the most discussed and "cussed" item in the standards for public libraries. In its defense, it should be stated that the formula is expressed in simple terms, does not seem excessive to the layman, and enjoys the pragmatic distinction of having worked for a decade with reasonable success. Though its units are somewhat arbitrary—a per capita reading basis means little until there has been eliminated the pre-school population, for example—and the \$1 unit is so pat as to invite the question, "Why not \$1.03, or some other figure?" it has worked.

Its chief weakness has been the fault of its creators—librarians—in employing it abbreviatedly and literally. The minimum qualification should always be stressed—it is sometimes overlooked—and the variables that may be present in a community, size, location, and character, should always be kept in mind.

Under these conditions the "\$1 per capita" gauge is about the best that we can do until unit costs of performing the major operations connected with library management have been fixed, and their meanings are understood by both librarian and layman.

It is believed by the committee that greater emphasis should be placed on reference service in the standards, especially under the section entitled, "Measuring the use of the library." This, however, will not be possible until a standard of measuring reference service in terms of questions

asked or books used is set up. It is recommended that this study be taken up at once in conjunction with the College and Reference Section.

It is further suggested that the following change in the standards be considered: That in the third paragraph under "The Income Needed," the first sentence read:

Committees desiring full development of library service find it necessary to provide a support much larger than the \$1 minimum.

Perhaps the most timely question before the committee has been whether or not in days of shrinking monetary values there should be a re-statement of the "\$1 per capita" standard of income. To attempt to harmonize this useful but always inexact measuring guide with the kaleidoscopic economic changes of the past two years, and perhaps the immediate future, is a futile effort. To coordinate one approximation with another is always a difficult task. Furthermore, any tax appropriating body would be sure to resist at this time any attempt to lift the \$1 base even to a level which would not be a real, but only an artificial, increase if compared with pre-depression levels.

What Is Being Learned from the Depression?

What is being learned from the depression that may have a more or less permanent effect on library management is a problem which has brought forth much data and discussion.

A study has been made of the following: the relation of increasing demands for service to decreasing financial support, and the possibilities of a continuance of this unbalanced situation; short cuts and methods introduced as economies, which may wisely be continued even after the financial condition of libraries is improved; the services rendered by a public library that may be regarded as of secondary importance and which perhaps should be discontinued permanently; the effect of the depression upon the public library as a unit of local gov-

ernment, and the possibilities of a revision of the library's intra-municipal relationships.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Despite the downward trend of the circulation statistics graph during the past half year, there is every reason to believe this to be a temporary condition, due in part to reduced appropriations, to partial re-employment, to restlessness caused by a shaken public morale, and other factors. Most public libraries, considered on a five-year basis, are still more active in their service with "clipped wings" than the yearly average for that period. Though there is no assurance at present of any library support from external sources, librarians should be alert to make sure that their institutions share in any improved financial condition, particularly if other sources of revenue are established for local expenditure, such as state or federal appropriations for such purposes.

It may become desirable for librarians to bring themselves into a closer relationship with the legislative and tax appropriating bodies. The traditional aloofness from and fear of politics by librarians may have to be discarded for a more practical attitude. In the distribution of public moneys for publicly supported enterprises, the advantages have always been with the departments that sought them. Consider the public schools, for example.

Economies and short cuts introduced so as to conform to a revised scale of support have been and always should be supported with zeal and in good spirit. But never in the spirit of repudiating old policies, still sound but not possible to maintain, should such retrenching go into effect. Otherwise there is a tendency to shake the layman's confidence in the librarian and librarianship. Nor is a defeatist policy to be a guiding star. Going forward, providing the best service according to the highest library standards, is the wise and enduring course to follow.

1. Among short cuts and other economies, the following should be mentioned as of ex-

panding influence: self charging; abbreviation of accession, shelf lists and cataloging methods; extending the period between overdue notices; reducing schedules of hours, particularly in special departments on Sundays and in branches during summer evenings.

2. Costs of handling and providing space may be reduced by more careful discrimination in the acceptance of gifts, especially books, periodicals, and newspaper subscriptions; and in the more regular and systematic discarding of books of no value to the library owning them. The systematic discarding of obsolescent printed matter is an essential part of library routine, quite as important as new book selection itself. Most public libraries could eliminate a considerable percentage of their book stock with no loss in effectiveness as reading or research centers. The resulting effect on the growing card catalog is also to be remembered in this connection.

3. Extra services developed during more prosperous days, when the public's wants were not only met but if possible anticipated, should go on a service charge basis now. This procedure includes adequate charges for temporary or lost cards; reserves (in addition to postage cost); parcel post delivery (to include labor and materials as well as postage); a replacement charge for books lost at list price rather than net cost, to cover ordering and cataloging; a delinquent service charge in excess of two cents a day after the book has been due for more than two weeks. The suburbanite may pay a reasonable fee for the use of a metropolitan library's resources outside the library's walls, and perhaps a service charge for research or reading course service.

The possibility of a circulation card fee for resident readers is not altogether promising, for it not only tends to decrease circulation activity, but it may result in extra heavy demands upon reading room facilities, not to mention a probable tendency toward increased theft of books from the shelves.

4. An expansion of the place of the pay duplicate collection in the economy program is to be considered. There seems to be good reason for confining to it a larger share of the duplicate copies of ephemeral fiction than was formerly the practice. This should also apply to especially popular books of non-fiction. It does seem wise, however, to adhere to the well established principle that no title is placed in the rental collection which is not in the free collection.

5. The public library as an indispensable public institution, and librarianship as a profession of significance, will never go far on a warehousing basis. The extensive deposit service of some libraries, through which there is an overlapping of the work of the branches and sub-branches in supplying recreational reading, is an excellent place for permanent retrenchment. Whether the public library can continue to be the source of supply for deposits of collateral and project reading to be drawn upon by, and sent to, public schools is doubtful. Public library service should be emphasized where the library and its librarians are present.

6. Libraries in the past have been over generous in binding and in rebinding. Further extension of vertical filing and more careful scrutiny of the credentials of a book in need of rebinding should be introduced. This applies particularly to the binding of periodicals and newspapers.

7. Before economic recovery reaches the point where library appropriations resemble normalcy, is the proper time to restudy each library system. Grown up over a period of several decades, in a community which has naturally changed materially, it is most appropriate that branches and other agencies be surveyed. In some cases more agencies will be found than can be supported in the immediate future. Such agencies should be terminated, especially if they are located in other than library owned property. It is also the time to consider whether in a downtown central library a children's room is as es-

sential as a room for the youth of the community, especially when there are thousands of unemployed and out-of-school boys and girls in every city. Does a library need a foreign department in days of restricted immigration? Should a central library maintain extensive comfort station accommodations? Probably not.

8. Consolidation is a requirement these days. Governmental departments with affiliated activities are being combined, wisely and with economical results. Tendencies to allow the public library to be completely absorbed by another department are to be resisted, but opportunities for combining functions should be encouraged. The possibilities of coordinating branches and school libraries are promising in mutual advantages. The development of closer relations between small suburban libraries and nearby metropolitan library systems offers great possibilities, both in economy and in better service to the suburban populations.

9. The public librarian has discovered during the depression that he cannot "go it alone." Whatever value the professional librarian may have placed, in the past, on the layman, either as a trustee or an itinerant wagging tongue of good will, he has come to realize that layman interest and support must be acquired and maintained hereafter. The larger the proportion of a citizenry that has a direct interest in the welfare of the public library, the better are that library's chances of receiving fair and reasonable consideration as a revenue requiring institution. Not only the official board of trustees, but unofficial "visiting committees" of qualified experts in connection with special departments—art, technical, and business, and neighborhood advisory committees for the branch libraries—all these are natural and effective methods of widening the circle of friends of the library.

(For complete report see *A. L. A. bulletin*.)

BOOK SYMPOSIUM

Reviews of ten delightful books published in 1934 are here presented by various members of the staff of the Indianapolis Public Library

When the stars come out. By Robert H. Baker. Viking Press 1934 \$2.50

This is a delightful introduction to astronomy for old or young. It draws attention immediately by its strikingly beautiful night-sky pictures done in vivid deep blue. Human interest is established by beginning with what the shepherds of old saw in the skies and tracing the gradual expansion of man's knowledge of the heavens.

The book may be used as a star-guide when fuller guides are not at hand, for it has diagrams locating the most important constellations. It will be read more as an enjoyable description of the nature and behavior of sun, moon, stars, meteors and galaxies, and of the earth's relation to them. Very recent discoveries and observations are included. The author is professor of astronomy at the University of Illinois and a life-long watcher of the skies.

The book is simple enough in content for high-school students, but the imaginative vigor of its style, its up-to-date-ness, and its beauty of format make it equally attractive to adults.

NANCY H. TODD,
Head of Technical Department.

Roland the warrior. By Virginia M. Collier and Jeanette Eaton. Harcourt 1934 \$3.00

One of the greatest contributions to the real literature for children this year is Roland the warrior. The collaborators, Virginia M. Collier and Jeanette Eaton, have written in beautiful prose the story of Roland, the fabulous hero of France, whose achievements have been told and sung throughout the centuries from long ago until now. The narrative covers the whole period of his life, from the time he was born by a chirruping fountain tumbling down from the hills in Northern Italy, when his father Milon and his mother Berte were fugitives from the wrath of her brother Charlemagne; through the scenes of his

poverty-stricken boyhood, when in spite of his rags he was the leader of the village boys; through the glorious days of his training for knighthood at the court of Charlemagne; through his years of great service to his king and country, up to the memorable battle at Roncevaux, where, betrayed by the false Ganelon Roland, beloved of the beautiful Aude, the pride of Charlemagne, met his death.

In this book along with the legends of Roland are recorded the deeds and activities of that great historic figure Charlemagne, and his knights. Legend and fact are blended into a unified whole. For, according to the authors' statement in the foreword, this early French popular epic has its roots in actual history and cannot be treated apart from fact. The book is beautifully and appropriately illustrated in color by Frank E. Schoonover. It will enrich the book collection of any library and will be read over and over by children who have a real love for well-told thrilling stories.

CARRIE E. SCOTT,
Supervisor, Work with Children.

Lighting the torch. By Eloise Lownsbury. Longmans 1934 \$2.00

Eloise Lownsbury has again turned to the Middle Ages for the theme of her story for older children. And again it is not so much the Middle Ages of the knights and battles but of the quieter, scholarly forces working in the shadow of martyrdom in order that very soon the Renaissance can burst into full flowering.

Stephen is a hot-headed, adventurous French peasant boy in whose breast there smoulders hatred and resentment of the rule of France. Strange circumstances lead him to the city of Basel where he becomes an apprentice in the famous Froben printing house. There is an interesting account of the Frobens and the methods employed in the early printing of books and as the

story proceeds a host of historical characters enter the scene, noteworthy among them Margaret of Valois and Erasmus. The latter is especially well drawn and indeed becomes a very real and delightful person.

There is plenty of action and excitement in the book to attract the average boy but for the child who is able, or willing, to see beyond the story itself there is a vast amount of information on the Middle Ages and the people who make its history. For this child it should prove an excellent paving stone towards a later appreciation of the classic picture of this period as recounted in "Cloister or the Hearth."

MARIAN MCFADDEN,

Assistant, West Indianapolis Branch.

Ho-Ming, girl of new China. By Elizabeth Foreman Lewis. Winston 1934 \$2.00

Ho-Ming! What a musical name? But, somehow, it is just right for the little twelve year old Chinese girl about whom Mrs. Lewis has woven such an interesting story—a story which has adventure, tragedy and much humor.

Ho-Ming is the daughter of a Chinese farmer. She is lively, intelligent and always on the alert for something new. Her older sister once said to her, "With you, even here on the farm, no one can say what next may happen." And there you have the key to Ho-Ming's character. She becomes interested in medicine and public health; and, as soon as her ability and enthusiasm are discovered, the Wei-Doctor arranges for her training and education. She has to fight superstition and tradition, but she finally conquers and in the end one feels that she will do much for herself and her people.

Mrs. Lewis has very cleverly shown, through the members of Ho-Ming's family, the struggle between the old and the new China—the old grandmother who has a sharp tongue and uses it constantly in her efforts to suppress the new ideas, the father and mother who are slowly emerging from the old order, and Ho-Ming who is quick to grasp the new ways of thinking.

Kurt Wiese, who lived many years in China, has caught the spirit of the story

and has depicted the charm and atmosphere of the country through his numerous illustrations.

We predict great popularity for Ho-Ming, perhaps as much as for Young Fu, the author's first juvenile book, which won the Newberry Medal.

ZELLA SPENCE,

Librarian, Riley Children's Room.

Lumberjack. By Stephen W. Meader. Illustrated by Henry C. Pitz. Harcourt 1934 \$2.00

Stephen Meader is at his best in telling the story of the lumberjack. It is a thrilling story with a New Hampshire winter as a setting.

Old Judge Garland decides to sell the fine stand of Garland Pines in order to have money to send his grandson Dan to college. Dan joins the lumber crew and helps in the work of chopping down the giant trees; hauling them to the mill; and sawing them into boards. The author describes the lumberjack's trade as a fascinating one, requiring not only physical strength and endurance, but ability and skill as well. By blending the romantic with the practical side of the lumberjack's trade, the author makes us feel the great beauty of the forest in winter. We catch glimpses of simple kindly New England hospitality, along with popovers and piccalilly.

There is a splendid well-knit plot. We follow Dan with absorbing interest as he hardens himself for the strenuous winter and makes friends with the French Canadian lumberman. There are breathless adventures—a villain; fighting a forest fire and tracking down the man who started it; saving the life of a half-frozen boy; and the finding of buried treasure. It is a tale well told and one which will interest grown-ups as well as older boys.

EVELYN R. SICKELS,

Head, Schools Division.

Beatrice the brave. By Rachel M. Varble. Little 1934 \$2.00

Beatrice is the daughter of a tapestry weaver in one of the great ateliers of Brus-

sels. As a result of his exacting work he becomes blind and Beatrice assumes the responsibility of caring for her family and weaving a tapestry which her father has already woven in his dreams. Life in Belgium at the time when the country was torn between loyalty to Charles the Fifth of the Holy Roman Empire and Francis the First of France was apt to be precarious and the way in which this sixteen year old girl protects her family and her tapestry against a thief, an over-bearing lord, even the emperor himself makes a fast moving story which will appeal to older girls.

The plot at times seems slightly forced, too neatly dovetailed for the adult mind but the picture of guild life and the descriptions of the almost lost art of tapestry weaving make the book decidedly worth while reading.

MARION MCFADDEN.

Wind in the chimney. By Cornelia Meigs. Illustrated by Louis Mansfield. Macmillan 1934 \$2.00

Cornelia Meigs has given us another rare story of pioneer life in America. She takes as her rich background the time when George Washington is President. The scene is laid near Valley Forge. Elizabeth Moreland, a young widow and her three children, Richard, fourteen; middlesized Ann; and Deborah, eight, arrive from England to seek their fortune in the new land of Pennsylvania. A small house with the wind singing in the chimney, seems waiting just for them. They make this their home and the story tells of their first year in the new home. What an eventful year it is with new experiences and new friendships! Richard takes a memorable and thrilling trip to Pittsburgh with Marcus Horner in his Conestoga wagon drawn by 8 dapple-grey horses. He brings back a bale of South Down wool for his mother's weaving, and the pattern for the Wheel of Fortune quilt, which plays an important part in the story. Deborah takes happy little trips to Philadelphia and dances in a minuet at a wedding party.

There is a quiet strength in the story and

it is told with a sureness and charm which makes it a valuable addition to stories for younger children, of pioneer life in America. The illustrations which are in black and white with a frontispiece in color, are charming and are in keeping with the spirit of the story.

EVELYN R. SICKELS.

Ruth visits Margot a little French girl. By Roy A. Keech. Whitman 1934 \$2.00

Modern travel stories that relate the personal experiences of boys and girls in foreign lands are always in demand by our library patrons. For this reason, Ruth visits Margot, a little French girl, will find a welcome in the children's book world. The author, Roy A. Keech, was an American soldier during the World War. At the time of the Armistice, he was stationed in the pretty hill-village of Bourmont in north-eastern part of France. Under the name of Private Kenworthy he tells many incidents which happened at the close of the war. In March, 1919, his little nine year old daughter, Ruth came to France to visit her father. She spends the summer traveling about sight-seeing with Margot Purcelle and her mother, delightful friends whose home was in Bourmont. Her father joins them when he can get a leave of absence.

The reader sees France through the eyes of these children as they spend a month on Riviera; have interesting adventures at Nice; go sight-seeing and shopping in Paris; visit a prisoner-of-war camp in Void and the camp at Is-sur-Tille. Interwoven with the description of places and things are many interesting legends and history stories that connect up with the places visited. The author shows a keen understanding of the French people and presents in an entertaining manner many of their quaint manners and customs. The illustrations of scenery and buildings in France and the beautiful picture map and end papers add much to the attractiveness of the book. Children of all ages will enjoy Ruth visits Margot, but its especial appeal will be to children nine and ten years of age.

CARRIE E. SCOTT.

Jeanne-Marie and her golden bird. By Ethel Calvert Phillips. Houghton 1934 \$1.75

This is the story of a little French-Canadian girl who lives in Quebec. Although called Jeanne-Marie and her golden bird it is really about Jeanne-Marie and her many little animal friends. The golden canary, Poli, holds the story together for us, but we are friends also with the two dogs, Finette and Ton-ton, the cat Camille and the little duck Mimi. We become acquainted not only with these, but also with people who live in Jeanne-Marie's neighborhood. Among them is Louis the cobbler, who teaches the children polite manners—the little girls how to drop curtseys and the boys how to bow—while he mends shoes. We are delighted by the way which all the neighbors run for help to save Jeanne-Marie's little canary when he is choking on a seed.

Unlike most story-book children Jeanne-Marie spends the winter in the country with her grandparents. The severity of a Canadian winter is brought out by the little girl's experience there, but we are also impressed by the warmth within the farmhouse, created by the affection of the older people and the children for each other. It is this general feeling of friendliness and affection that makes the story worth-while.

The French names of Jeanne-Marie's friends are all easy to pronounce, which makes them less forbidding. The French-Canadian atmosphere is woven into the book deftly, and seems familiar rather than strange.

The seven illustrations are photographs of figurines made by Helen Blair. Not only figures but complete little scenes have been made and photographed. They appear gro-

tesque at first glance, but as they become more familiar they grow more interesting. One charming scene is of Jeanne-Marie making her curtsey before Louis the cobbler as he sits on his work-bench with her shoes. This book should please younger children, both boys and girls.

ELIZABETH MERRILL,
Assistant, Riley Room.

Farm boy, a hunt for Indian treasure. Story by Phil Stong, pictures by Kurt Wiese. Doubleday 1934 \$2.00

If ever a book made farm life attractive to ten year old boys it is *Farm Boy* by Phil Stong, author of *State Fair*. Harlan, almost ten, traveled over a hundred miles all the way by himself from DeMoines to Pitts-ville, his father's boyhood home to spend the summer on the farm with his grandfather and his cousins Guy and Karl. What startling things he had in mind to tell these little country boys about the wonders of city life. How they all faded into air when Harlan, almost at once, became absorbed in the varied interests of farm life. So many new things to do with Lee the hired hand; so many animals to know,—Old Bird, the mare that Grandpa let him drive, the pigs and the famous Blue Boy, a prize hog. What interesting stories Grandpa told of Indians and pioneer life. Best of all was the digging for hidden treasures in the Indian mound.

Boys and girls from six to nine will enjoy all these thrilling adventures. They will also like Kurt Wiese's colorful illustrations which make one of the most satisfactory picture story books of the year.

CARRIE E. SCOTT.

NOTES ON SOME INDIANA BOOKS

Greetings to a new Indiana author! Mrs. Bertita Harding, whose home is in Indianapolis, is a very attractive young woman and the wife of a newspaper man of that city. She is by heritage and experience pe-

culiarly fitted for writing her first book *The Phantom Crown, the story of Maximilian and Carlota of Mexico*. Mrs. Harding is of Rhenish and Hungarian ancestry, has lived in Austria and has spent many years in the

City of Mexico. From early childhood she has listened to constant talk of the ill-fated emperor and empress. Since 1926 she has been writing down facts, visiting museums, consulting diaries, and in all has done an immense amount of research in her preparation for writing the book. The writing itself was done in several months' time in her Indianapolis apartment.

The book has been termed a romanticized history. The first two sections deal with Maximilian's early life and marriage and has for a setting the glittering courts of Europe. The bulk of the book, however, has the more somber background of Mexico City and describes the disastrous reign in Mexico (1862-67). It gives a good picture of Mexico for that period.

It is significant that two noted Indiana writers, who by the way are both in diplomatic service at present, have written letters highly commending the book. Claude Bowers says "The author of *Phantom Crown* writes a vivid and fascinating drama in which the actors stand out as real personalities and she has done her work with scholarly thoroughness." Meredith Nicholson refers to it as a book "of sterling quality" with a style just right for the subject matter. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, 1934. \$3.50.

Herbert O. Yardley of Worthington has another new yarn *Red Sun of Nippon* with plenty of spies, pilfered documents and a Chinese-American heroine. Again Mr. Yardley introduces his specialty, the science of cipher writing, in the plot. N. Y., Longmans, 1934. \$2.00.

Catharine Merrill Life and Letters, collected and arranged by her niece Katharine Merrill Graydon, not only gives deep insight into the life and character of the Indiana educator but also portrays Indianapolis from pioneer days through the three quarters of the nineteenth century.

Miss Graydon spent years collecting letters, editing them and assembling historical data for this book. The work was practically finished at the time of her death in January of last year. Since then her two

sisters, Ellen and Jane Graydon, have completed the book.

Born of pioneer parents, Catharine Merrill proved to be a pioneer herself in many activities of her home city. She was brought to Indianapolis just before it became the state capital in 1825. Many quotations are given from a diary which she kept while a child. In it she mentions the time when the governor's mansion on the Circle was used for a hospital during a cholera epidemic. Many of her letters are included in the book. She attended the private school of the Misses Axtel. She is said to have been the first woman from Indiana and one of the first in the country to go abroad for study. Because of the war she returned in 1861 and served as a nurse. She gained practical experience which aided her in writing the book *The Soldier of Indiana in the War for the Union*, which is a comprehensive history on the subject. In 1869 she became a member of the faculty of Northwestern Christian University (now Butler University). She is said to have been the second woman in the country on a college faculty. In 1883 she retired but continued giving classes in literature in her home until her death in 1900. Her influence on literary culture in Indianapolis was outstanding. Greenfield, Indiana, Mitchell Co., 1934. \$2.00.

The Crowded Hill by Le Roy Mac Leod, although a complete novel in itself, is the second volume of a tetralogy. *The Years of Peace* (1932) is the first one and the two remaining books are in preparation. The four volumes will deal with a family living in the Wabash Valley following the time of the Civil War. This novel has excellent characterization and has been well recommended in local reviews. One critic states, however, that the author is brutally frank. Parts of the book will be offensive to some readers.

The author was born in Anderson, was reared on a farm near Crawfordsville, was graduated from DePauw University and has since been engaged in farming. N. Y., Reynal & Hitchcock, 1934. \$2.50.

Edward Howard Griggs, lecturer and teacher, now living in New York, recalls his early days spent in Indiana in his autobiography *The Story of an Itinerant Teacher*. He lived in Madison from the time he was five until early manhood. Then he came to Indianapolis. He tells of his contact with such people as Oscar McCulloch, Dr. William A. Bell and Charity Dye. He later attended Indiana University, made up his entrance requirements and was graduated in two years. (1889) Later he served on the faculty of Indiana University. The book is somewhat eulogistic and it will have a rather limited interest. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill, 1934. \$1.50.

Admirers of President William Lowe Bryan of Indiana University will be interested in his new book *The President's Column*. For the past eight years Dr. Bryan has contributed articles to the school papers *The Indiana Daily Student* and *The Indiana Alumnus*. The book is comprised of two hundred of these articles which are arranged chronologically and are on a diversity of subjects. In some cases there is given merely a two or three line comment. More often several paragraphs or pages are given which relate some incident, quote a verse of poetry, or touch upon a bit of philosophy, recall something in literature, science or history, or mention some current event upon which Dr. Bryan makes an observation or expresses his convictions. He wins respect with the sincerity, the understanding of human nature, and the tolerance which he displays. It is decidedly not dry reading. It is a book which will have a value to the after dinner speaker. Many parts of it can be read and re-read from time to time with profit and enjoyment.

Librarians should not miss reading the selection on "Which books?" to bolster the argument against adding some of the current novels and debunking biographies with money which should be spent on essential books. He says "The best thing to do with the book which is not worth the paper it is-

printed-on is to sell it for junk in the hope that the junk may reappear as paper in a book that is worth while." Illustrated with campus views. Bloomington, Ind., Indiana University, 1934. \$2.00.

The widow and sons of Chic Jackson have issued a volume of comic strips of the Roger Bean family. The book will probably find ready sale among those who have missed the Bean family since the death of Mr. Jackson in June of last year. 3029 Broadway Ave., Indianapolis, Mrs. Margaret W. Jackson, 1934. \$.50.

Those who have a preference for such stories as *Penrod* and *Seventeen* by Booth Tarkington will be delighted with his latest book *Little Orvie*. This is the story of a seven year old boy who is somewhat of a problem to his relatives. He is a wriggling little fellow, sometimes shy, sometimes boastful and always bored with adults in general and his parents in particular. His frequent display of bravado and his pranks prove a source of consternation to his parents. No one ever knows just what he is going to do. He succeeds in winning his way into the sympathies of the reader who rejoices with him when he reaches the "seventh heaven" of delight by gaining possession of three dogs at once. The adult will find the book good reading with its occasional jibes at his expense. It will appeal to some children, especially those who have become interested in *Little Orvie* stories in the *Saturday Evening Post*. Illus. by George Brehm. N. Y., Doubleday, 1934. \$2.50.

M. H. A.

WHO READS WHAT?

President Charles H. Compton of the American Library Association read his essay on "Who reads Bernard Shaw" at the 1933 meeting of the Indiana Library Associations. He has now gathered it with his several similar studies on Mark Twain,

Hardy, Sandburg, William James and the Greek Classics in a volume entitled "Who reads what?". Dorothy Canfield Fisher in her Introduction says, "I had—not only as an author but as an American citizen aware that 'who reads what' is vital to the progress of a modern country—wondered at the blankness of our ignorance about what happens to books after they are published and sold. Reading is an organic function of modern life almost as 'natural' as eating. The health of the country depends on it quite as much as on the material food that is swallowed. Yet we know only very little about what is being read by the great majority of Americans. And more important, we know really nothing at all about why they read what they do."

Following an interest begun when he enjoyed closer contact with the reading public, Mr. Compton has sought by personal correspondence with library borrowers of these authors' books, to find out who reads them, their backgrounds and occupations, why they like these authors and what they think about them. Mr. Compton finds that, surprising as it may seem, the wage earners of America out-distance the so-called intellectuals in their appreciation of these books.

In explanation of his methods of exploration, may be cited the results of his investigation of the readers of Hardy, whose "Tess of the d'Urbervilles," "A pair of blue eyes," "Far from the madding crowd" and "The return of the native" are among the staples of the book shelves.

"On this list of readers I discovered ninety-one stenographers, bookkeepers, an auto mechanic and ninety-six others who classified themselves as salesmen and saleswomen. It seemed to me almost incredible that these salesfolk who sell us ties and sox and B. V. D.s, bread and butter, sugar and tea can really understand Hardy at least in the way he is understood by our wives, who write papers about him for women's clubs. But they do, and while it may be mere coincidence, those of Hardy's works which critics generally consider his great-

est are the most popular with this type of reader."

These studies, while not scientific, Mr. Compton believes to be reasonably accurate, and evidences of the fact that the general level of intelligence among people without formal education is much higher than people generally believe. "I do not mean by this assertion that all stenographers, hairdressers and bricklayers read the Greek classics. But in making this investigation, I did discover a field engineer, a printer, a modern chariot driver, an advertising solicitor and a nurse who read Euripides, Homer and the old Greek philosophers. I was not satisfied until I wrote some of them to find out whether they really had an appreciation of Greek literature or were merely reading to acquire superficial culture. In most cases, I found the former to be true."

In conducting these studies, Mr. Compton chose his favorite authors not only for the personal pleasure he derived from them himself, but because of his familiarity with the subject matter. In preparation, he read everything the author had written and all about him. He quotes letters from many readers and it all makes a volume, too short, but full of inspiration as well as information for any librarian. One may feel that he knows this already, but no writer has made the research so thoroughly before and so pleasingly brought the results to our attention. Wilson, 1934. \$1.25.

Occupations and vocational guidance: a source list of pamphlet material; comp. by Wilma Bennett (H. W. Wilson \$1.25) is a buying list and index of pamphlets on occupations and vocational guidance available during the past two years. It is arranged alphabetically by the names of publishing agencies from which materials may be procured and indexed by occupation. For each pamphlet is given title, author if known, date, paging and price. No purely advertising material is included. It will be an excellent aid and time-saver to vocational guidance workers and librarians wishing to make a collection of this material.

Reading and the school library (56 E. 13th St., Chicago, Ill. Subscription price \$1 per year, monthly except July and August) is planned to give teachers, librarians and those who are selecting books for young people a magazine in which ideas and views can be exchanged, practices and procedures described and problems clarified. Experienced librarians, writers and teachers have contributed special articles with attractive illustrations and suggestive bibliographies. The calendar of each month's events, anniversaries and holidays is listed with bibliographies for each subject mentioned. The National Film Estimate Service furnishes their estimate of current popular films. These features with the page for Your Opinion and Mine make a practical and inspirational magazine.

Library Manual: a study-work Manual for high school freshmen and sophomores, was prepared by Marie A. Toser, Teacher-librarian of Milwaukee University School. It contains nine simple lessons on the use of books and libraries. The laboratory method is used. With each copy is included an envelope containing a quiz for each lesson and a final examination. A teacher's key contains correct answers to the questions.

The treatment is simple, accurate and adaptable to most high school libraries. It contains sample pages from dictionaries, encyclopedias and the Readers' guide. The last chapter has a review exercise making use of all previous lessons.

The H. W. Wilson company publishes it in paper at 70c (10 or more copies in one order 35c each postpaid), Teachers' key 25c (one copy free with 10 or more copies of the Manual ordered for school use).

20th Century Forces in European Fiction by Agnes Camilla Hansen, just published by the A. L. A., is the type of book that most libraries will use often and which women's clubs and other groups will regard as an almost unlimited source of program material. At the same time it is a book for the individual reader.

Here one finds more than 500 novels, in English translation, brought together in a way which gives a composite picture of the forces that are gradually changing western civilization. Wars, discoveries, inventions, social experiments, modern psychology, the new physics, all leave a definite impress on human behavior, individual and collective, and it is these, according to Miss Hansen, which furnish the novelist's raw materials. The novel therefore becomes, she maintains, a pleasurable means to a better understanding of the complicated world in which we live. With each analysis of the various "forces" which she treats she lists novels picturing these forces at work. Titles suitable for high school age are starred in the index.

Miss Hansen's book adds immeasurably to one's enjoyment of the novel and establishes for the novel its rightful place in the study of a wide range of subjects. The book covers 250 pages and is priced at \$2. We were pleased with the quotation from Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick:

"I am convinced that too much stress has been laid on a supposed distinction between informational and recreational reading. This depends rather on the intent of the reader than on the content of the book. The confusion here is a double one, where it is assumed that fiction is in some way an inferior class, whose reading is to be discouraged. First, recreational reading is not inferior to informational, and secondly, fiction is not necessarily recreational reading. One may read mathematics for recreation and a novel to be able to pass an examination. I believe that we are changing our opinion with regard to this matter and that the library is responding or will shortly respond to this change."

Whether the library has its own printing equipment or relies on the local printer for its bulletins, reports, leaflets, lists, and the like, Walter's *The Library's Own Printing*, just issued by the A. L. A., will serve a useful purpose. The preparation and editing of copy, proofreading, the selection of paper and ink, design and layout, and various

printing processes are all discussed in not too great detail but with sufficient clarity to give a good picture of the problems involved and of how they may be met. The book itself is beautifully designed and printed and appropriately illustrated. It covers 128 pages and is priced at \$1.50.

Never before has there been brought together evaluations and comparisons of the many dictionaries now on the market. Between 40 and 50 are reviewed in the October issue of the *Subscription Books Bulletin* published by the A. L. A. They are considered in three groups, large, medium sized, and small. The questions which arise in the minds of librarians and library patrons regarding the relative merits of this or that dictionary can now easily be answered. This issue costs only 35c. The *Bulletin's* yearly subscription rate is \$1.

GENEALOGY AND THE STATE LIBRARY

In the planning for the new Indiana State Library and Historical building, recently completed and dedicated, provision was made for the segregation and separate handling of genealogical material. Several weeks were required for the re-cataloging and transferring of this material, but the large room for this purpose was opened on March 1, 1934, and has since been recognized as the Genealogy Section, a part of the Indiana Division. The very large patronage which has followed seems to have justified such a move. Nearly twenty five hundred people have used the room in person, to say nothing of the requests that are constantly coming in by mail.

The room is attractive. Its location in a corner of the building, its alcove arrangement permitting the patron to browse to his heart's content, the large tables, comfortable chairs, and good lighting combine to make the place most practical for work of this character.

In the genealogy room are to be found general treatises on genealogy; family his-

tories in book and manuscript form; pamphlet material; books on heraldry; material on the separate states including archives, colonial and later records, county and town histories, vital records of various kinds; the 1790 Federal census; photostat copies of the 1820 and 1830 census for Indiana, giving heads of families; soldier lists by states; pension records; material of the patriotic societies; periodicals; ready indices; and in fact, such material as will be of value to the person in quest of an ancestry. The extensive collection of Indiana county histories is available in the Indiana history room, just outside the door of the genealogy room.

In the matter of service, it has been found that the section is following the same plan as that adopted by the larger genealogy libraries of the country, and also of England. No attempt is made to trace to any large extent the lineage of an individual family. Definite requests are handled, definite connections in a lineage are established wherever possible, sources of information are suggested, and a limited amount of copying is done. But where the request calls for more time than can be fairly given to it, the patron is referred to a list of genealogists who use the State library for professional work. Somewhat more attention is given to the patron in the state who does not have immediate access to the library, but the material may not be taken from the library.

The Genealogy Section has been fortunate in receiving many gifts, such as family histories in book and manuscript form (the latter often consisting of only a few pages or so, but valuable, nevertheless), county histories, the noteworthy genealogical records prepared by the chapters of the D. A. R. in various counties, the two volumes of the History of D. A. R. chapters in Indiana, a "perpetual" subscription to the magazine, *Children of the American Revolution*, and miscellaneous material.

A recent valuable acquisition is the two volume history of the Fitch family, compiled by Roscoe Conkling Fitch, and pre-

sented to the library by Robert L. Fitch, of Indianapolis, in memory of his grandfather, Ebenezer Fitch, the first President of Williams College. The library is to be congratulated on receiving such an important work, and we think that Mr. Fitch, the donor, is to be commended for realizing that by placing these volumes in the State library, they will be available for reference for generations to come.

The average genealogical publication is expensive and book funds are not large. But now that the State library can offer adequate space for its material, it is hoped that many will follow the example of Mr. Fitch and others who are placing their family histories in the genealogy room.

—ANNA POUCHER,
Librarian, Genealogy Section.

CERTIFICATION: SOME GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

The taxpayers of Indiana have invested millions of dollars in a library service system and should have the best returns possible on that investment. Other hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent annually in carrying on this library service. Competent librarians must be employed if the taxpayers are to receive a proper return on the funds they are willing to spend.

The library is an essential contributor to the educational work of the community. It is often the only adult educational institution and can play a most important part in aid of direct formal instruction in public and parochial schools and institutions of higher education. To meet these conditions higher professional standards of librarians are demanded and a means of establishing, measuring and certifying them must be provided.

With the establishment of such standards persons better prepared with education, cultural background and ideals of service will be encouraged to take up library work. Reciprocal relations officially established will enable Indiana librarians to qualify in other

states. Library boards will be aided in the selection of competent librarians and will be greatly relieved from the pressure often brought to bear for the appointment of unqualified persons to positions.

With competent librarians in charge of our libraries, communities will more readily recognize the importance and necessity of adequate support. Taxing bodies and reviewing boards will also react more favorably toward establishing adequate support if they have confidence in the wise and efficient use of funds so provided.

Certification measures up to the best legislative ideas of greatest efficiency in all lines of work supported by public funds.

The demand for certifications is general. Legal certification is operative in several states (New York, California, Wisconsin, North Carolina) and bills are being presented in many states at this time. A bill for certification of librarians was presented to the 1927 General Assembly. Opposition to it came mostly from librarians. Voluntary certification has been tried now for six years, but it is unsatisfactory and has little effect in improving conditions. The Indiana Library Association and the Indiana Library Trustees' Association have both voted several times in support of certification legislation.

Librarians now holding positions should not fear that they would have to give them up, as the bill clearly provides that its provisions do not apply to those holding positions before January 1, 1936. The status of librarians now employed is not changed in any way. The provisions apply only to head librarians, heads of departments or branch libraries. Clerical workers and sub-professional grades are not affected.

It would not be advisable for the legislature to establish standards directly, thus making necessary a long series of amendments to meet new conditions as changes occur. Laws governing all other licensing bodies recognize this and we have civil service boards and many similar boards to care for the different professions.

Expense of such a board can be met readily and adequately from the fees received, especially as the secretary's work is attached to an active state office. Fees charged librarians for certificates would be very small and none would object to it considering the protection offered for competence and efficiency in a position. The question of tenure is not involved.

Certification would have no direct effect on salaries, as the duty of establishing budgets remains solely in the library board. Recent experience has definitely shown that economic conditions determine salary limits, no matter what the standards. Salary levels should, and generally do, depend upon the efficiency of the service rendered. To the extent only that better service is given will higher rates of pay be justified.

A. L. A. MID WINTER MEETING

Progress in national and state planning for libraries was the main topic of discussion at the various sessions of the three-day midwinter conference of the American Library Association held in Chicago, December 27 to 29.

Federal aid in the form of an annual appropriation of from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 for nation-wide library development was endorsed by the A. L. A. Council, the policy-forming body of the Association, and its officers were authorized to take steps toward this objective.

Federal funds, the resolution provided, would be allotted to the states and territories through such state library agencies as are approved by the federal authority and after the submission and approval of programs for the library development of the state. Fifty per cent of the funds, it stipulated, would be distributed to the states on the basis of population and the other fifty per cent on the basis of need, as determined by adequate studies to be made by the federal and state library agency. The control and administration of library service would remain with states and local units of government according to the pro-

posed plan and federal aid would be so administered as to encourage state and local initiative.

Another resolution voted advocated the establishment of a federal library agency either in the Library of Congress or in the office of education, depending upon either agency's ability to handle its functions, or in some appropriate governmental agency which may result from reorganization of governmental departments.

A protest against tax limitation laws was approved on recommendation of the Committee on Library Revenues. Minimum requirements for teacher-librarian training agencies drafted by the Board of Education for Librarianship were adopted, in which recognition will be given to a curriculum of one-half year's training for teacher-librarians, but not to less than that. The A. L. A. Committee on Unemployment reported a turn for the better in the fact that data from 31 library schools showed approximately 35 per cent less unemployment among library school graduates in November, 1934, than in July, 1933, and 67 libraries report salary increases or partial or full restoration of salaries between July, 1933, and November, 1934.

Ways of spreading the cost of libraries over larger areas were considered by library trustees attending the trustees' section, Mrs. J. F. Brenneman of Columbia City making the principal address. Federal and state aid and a "pegged levy," such as is to be sought in Illinois, were some of the means discussed.

The final session was devoted to progress made by various of the forty-two states actively engaged in evaluating existing library machinery and working toward universal library service with adequate support. Illinois, it was reported, is asking \$1,000,000 for library development and \$600,000 for books over a two-year period. Louisiana is seeking \$2,000,000 in state funds. In the majority of states certification of librarians is being pressed it was also revealed.

Other sessions were devoted to discussions of the League of Library Commissions, the Library Extension Board, normal and teachers' college librarians, librarians of large public libraries and university and reference librarians. L. L. Dickerson was elected chairman of the large public libraries group for next year.

INDIANA MEMBERS ON A. L. A. COMMITTEES

Adult Reading—Luther L. Dickerson, Public library, Indianapolis
 Annuities and Pensions—Ethel Cleland, Business Branch, Public library, Indianapolis
 Book Buying—Frank H. Whitmore, Public library, East Chicago
 Civil Service Relations—Marcia M. Furnas, Public library, Indianapolis
 Editorial—Louis J. Bailey, State library, Indianapolis
 Elections—Hazel F. Long, Public library, Whiting
 Federal Relations—Louis J. Bailey, State library, Indianapolis
 Library Administration—William J. Hamilton, Public library, Gary; James A. Howard, Public library, Hammond
 Library Cooperation with Latin America—Paul R. Byrne, University of Notre Dame library
 Library Equipment and Appliances—Esther U. McNitt, State library, Indianapolis
 Library Radio Broadcasting—Luther L. Dickerson, Public library, Indianapolis
 Library Revenues—Hazel B. Warren, State library, Indianapolis

Membership—Orpha Maud Peters, Public library, Gary
 Publicity—Velma R. Shaffer, Gary College library, Gary
 Reprints and Inexpensive Editions—Ethel F. McCollough, Public library, Evansville
 Special Membership—William J. Hamilton, Public library, Gary; Cerene Ohr, Public library, Indianapolis

WARNING!—AGAIN

The OCCURRENT published a warning against A. L. Speas, an insurance salesman, in the July, 1930, number. He seems to have turned up again still illegally collecting insurance premiums. He likes to call on librarians and teachers. He also uses other names, such as George W. Stone, J. L. Barry, G. R. M. Smith and C. A. Sims. For description see previous warning.

Indiana Documents Received at the State Library in October-December, 1934

Accounting and Statistics, Division of. Statistical Report 1933.
 Blind, State School for. 88th Report, 1934.
 Boys' School. 68th Report, 1934.
 *Conservation, Department of. Outdoor Indiana, December 1934.
 *Conservation, Department of. Outdoor Indiana, January 1935.
 *Excise Director. Regulations No. 3.
 *Governor's Commission on Unemployment Relief. Organization chart.
 *Health, Division of Public. Bulletin V. 37, No. 12, December 1934.
 Logansport State Hospital. Report 1934.
 State Sanatorium. Report 1933-1934.
 Welfare, Department of Public. Bulletin of Charities and Correction. Bulletin No. 216, December 1934. (Contains 44th annual report.)

* Not given to the Library for distribution.

NEWS NOTES FROM INDIANA LIBRARIES

Akron—In appreciation of the gift of Foster's music made to the library by J. K. Lilly the Methodist Church choir presented an evening concert on November 2 of all Foster music. Through the gift of Claude Billings, editor of the *News*, twelve beautiful evergreen shrubs have been placed on

the lawn. Two new sections of shelving have also been added by the board.

Borden—By bequest George W. Robb left to the public library the museum and library building of the late W. W. Borden. The Borden library was acquired by the In-

diana State library with the exception of two volumes—Chaucer and a third folio Shakespeare. The Smith library acquired the folio set of Audubon and Eli Lilly the collection of geological specimens, most of which Mr. Borden gathered in southern Indiana. Several years ago the wonderful crinoid collection of Mr. Borden's was acquired by the Field museum of Chicago. The building is well located and of good size for the public library, which has unfortunately been closed for some time owing to loss of tax support. It is hoped that library interest will revive and something may be done soon to open the library regularly.

Cambridge City—Jeanetta Boyd, who has served six years as assistant in the public library, was married at Christmas to Dale Ellsbury of Connerville.

A determined campaign has been in progress for four months to raise the \$5,000 required to secure the Hollowell bequest of \$10,000 made conditionally and which expired February 1. A total of \$5,700 was pledged.

Cayuga—The library is settled in its rooms in the City Hall, having moved there the first of December. In plans for the building two rooms were provided for the library, one for reading and one for book-cases. They were used by the Relief Commission until recently. Curtains at the windows help to give a homelike air to the rooms.

Columbus—Mrs. Mary O'Bryan, assistant librarian and a member of the library staff for many years, passed away suddenly, December 28. Mrs. O'Bryan became ill at a sorority dance and died of heart disease shortly after being taken home. She was born at Bardstown, Kentucky, and is survived by her husband and a son.

East Chicago—A distinctive instance of library cooperation was given when the libraries of Hammond, Gary, Whiting and East Chicago joined in compiling a union list on crime and criminals for the annual

meeting of the Lake county welfare association in November. It was a speedy job, also, as only four days were used in recording, assembling and printing the list.

A mural 34 feet in length was unveiled at the Baring branch library January 24. Presentation on behalf of the federal government was made by Wilbur D. Peat of the John Herron Art Institute, Indianapolis, state director of the Public Works Art Project. The painting was done by Ernest Kasas and he has generously contributed weeks of his own time to its completion. It was exhibited for several months in the General Exhibit building of the Century of Progress Exposition. Mr. Kasas chose for his subject "The gifts of the book to mankind." Throughout the various groups which form parts of the larger mural he has symbolized the value and the message of books. The central figure, queenly in appearance and bearing and gracefully seated in a dominating position, is represented as awarding the palm branch, typifying success, to those who have made a wise use of books and reading. Through a becoming arrangement of the figures and by means of the rich and varied lines of the garments the artist has produced a painting full of color and decorative features which carry out the dignity and importance of the subject.

Evansville. That the courage and high spirit shown in Miss McCollough's annual report may cheer up some of the rest of us we cull a few paragraphs from it here, knowing that it but reflects the same sentiments that might be reported by many other libraries.

"To serve the 600 county children who live outside the city limits, Evansville is planning to establish a station in the Francis Joseph Reitz High School. This station will be in charge of Elsie Strassweg, county librarian, and will be in operation one morning each week."

"Hours of opening have been greatly increased. For two years Central has been open from 12 to 6, week days, with service

two evening a week and 2 to 5 on Sundays. Since January first the library has been open from 10 a. m. to 8:30 p. m.; Sunday hours the same as formerly. East and West Side branches are now open every day and evening from Monday to Saturday. February first Howell branch and three school stations will go back to the old service schedules."

"Circulation: In 1930 for the first time in the history of this library the circulation passed the 800,000 mark with a total of 813,112 books borrowed. January 1, 1933, the tide turned very definitely in the downward direction. With the closing of most of the city school, hospital and other stations, the shortening of hours everywhere and the curtailment of county service, the 1933 total fell to 547,642, a loss of 331,788 over the previous year. In 1934 the loss over 1933 was 48,910. The difference between the number of books circulated in 1932 and 1934 is 380,698. It took twenty years to reach the peak, it took just two to fall back to the level reached between 1920 and 1921."

"The figures quoted demonstrate how slow is the process of building circulation and how quickly the structure may be toppled over. Given enough points of contact, long hours of opening, enough money for the purchase of new books and replacements and a staff large enough and efficient enough to meet the demands made upon it by the public, the only limit imposed upon a public library is that of population and general intelligence. Lacking any one of these elements an insurmountable obstacle may stand in the way of ultimate achievement."

"Receipts from the sale of old books amounted to \$36.35; Receipts from the rental collection were \$266.77. In December the rental collection, which had been established as an emergency measure only, was discontinued and everybody concerned was happy."

"I sit in my office listening to persons applying for positions that do not exist; to men who want to sell things we do not need to buy, to the troubles, the aspirations,

the boasting, the hard luck stories of all sorts and conditions of men and women. Most of it is the outgrowth of a troubled social order, all of it emphasizes the need of keeping minds wholesomely busy. If the public library needs any justification for its existence, surely it may be found in this fact."

"That most of our readers do like the better things as well as the trash has been conclusively demonstrated by the popularity of the Dickens Room collection. This is a very carefully selected group of the better books started as a project for high school pupils but has been exceedingly popular with all kinds and conditions of library readers. Old men and young, sweet young maids and seasoned dames, have all found in the Dickens Room that which takes them again and again to those particular shelves."

"In December there came to light the theft of several hundred catalog cards, removed from the catalog during the month. Steps have been taken to repair the damage, as 444 author cards have already been typed to replace missing cards. Much time must be spent in the new year checking for missing entries and in typing cards."

"Miss Voekel's report is a fine record of achievement gained through dozens of letters written, telephone calls sent out, visits made to schools, talks on children's reading given to adult clubs and Parent-Teacher Association groups, classes in library instruction held in library and school rooms, hobby shows and story hours, stamp and other clubs organized and carried on, all done for the purpose of making the child of today library minded and a lover of good books. What has been done at Central has also been done in a general way in the branches. At East, West, Howell and all the other library centers, busy children's librarians, branch and station librarians have given of their best efforts to spread the gospel of good reading. No holiday has been allowed to pass unheralded in any children's room in the library system. No appeal for help from busy teacher or harassed

parent has gone without response. And when the result was not all that it might have been it was not the fault of the spirit of the librarian but rather because of the limitations of time and strength. This Library Board has reason to be proud of the young women who serve the children in every library in the system."

"Vanderburgh County Library: The death of Miss Hazel Burk on May 29 of 1934 was very unexpected, and deeply regretted by the staff and the patrons of the Vanderburgh County Library. From the time of her departure from Evansville (May 10) to go to the Cleveland Clinic until the first of July the county library was taken care of by Elizabeth Scherer and Harold Sander, the page. In July, Elsie Strassweg, and Mary Frances Lannert took up their work as county librarian and assistant. In August, Harold Sander resigned from his position and Clyde Kuester was appointed in his place. This left an entirely new staff without a connecting link with the past. However, every person now employed in the county library has gone through the county grade schools and is more closely allied with the life of the county than any previous county staff."

"I cannot bring this report to a close without acknowledging, even though it be very inadequately, my appreciation of the way in which the members of this board have valiantly struggled with each problem as it has come up. For 21 years I have watched, as new members have been appointed, the development of their interest and ability to understand and handle library problems. Never have I seen a more determined effort to render a good account of financial stewardship, nor a greater desire to understand administrative problems than the members of this board have shown. Mr. Wertz, Mr. Richardt and Mrs. Davidson, each as holding important office and committee appointments have labored unceasingly to put us back on the upgrade. Never could they have done what they have done had they not had the solid backing of the other members of this board."

"To the staff who have gone ahead and have done a good job in the face of uncertainty, disquieting rumors, and the most disheartening difficulties; to the Tax Board which dealt gently with us this year; to the public which, with a few exceptions, accepted our hard luck philosophically and have waited patiently until such time as we may again give the kind of service the public had learned to expect from this library; to the newspapers which have refused to go off on tangents and make news out of possible unhappy situations; to the CWA and FERA office heads who have striven to meet our needs and have sent us the best available human material; to Parent Teacher groups who have given money and help when and where most needed; to young women, some of whom were former members of the staff, who have given hours of voluntary service, telling stories, typing and doing many uninteresting but necessary tasks for city and county libraries; to the schools, principals and teachers for making, in unnumbered ways, our effort in behalf of the children more effective; to the donors of books and magazines; to all who have shown a friendly spirit toward the library in any way we broadcast a sincere Thank You."

Fort Wayne—Rex M. Potterf, a teacher in Central high school for the past eleven years and head of the social science department since 1929, was appointed librarian of the Public Library beginning January 1.

Mr. Potterf holds an A. B. degree in history from Indiana University, an A. M. degree in political science from the same institution, an A. M. degree in education from Columbia University and has completed most of the required work for a Ph. D. degree. He had his earlier training in Spice-land Academy. He entered the education field in 1912 as a teacher in the Henry county schools, serving there for five years. In 1918, while a teacher in the Rush county schools, he was appointed superintendent of Warren schools, holding that position until 1923, when he became principal of the Huntington township schools. In

the fall of 1924 he joined the Central high school faculty, but the following year procured a leave of absence to go to Indiana University, where he worked as library research assistant in the Indiana University library and continued his studies toward a doctor's degree.

In the fall of 1926 Mr. Potterf returned to Central high school as a teacher, but has spent his summers in research work in the historical library at Madison, Wis., and in the New York public library and the Columbia University library. While in Madison in the summer of 1926 he passed the required oral examinations in foreign languages (French and German) for his Ph. D. degree. In the summers of 1921, 1922 and 1923 he served as teacher in Huntington College and the Terre Haute State Normal School.

Mr. Potterf's civic, club and religious affiliations include membership in the Quest, Fortnightly, Cosmopolitan and First Presbyterian Men's clubs, membership in the Masonic Lodge, presidency of the Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society and the instructorship of the Young People's Bible Class of the First Presbyterian Church.

He has a large private library and has specialized in the collection of rare and interesting books on nineteenth century American history.

Gary. Miss Mabelle Hilligoss, Anderson, has been librarian of the Senior High School library, Horace Mann School, Gary, since September. Miss Ruth Coblenz, Peru, became assistant in the Gary College library January 7.

Gas City. The library had a "Tag Day" November 16th. The purpose was to purchase new books for the library, since tax money was not sufficient. The idea was sponsored by the Kiwanis club of the city. Different organizations were asked to assist and the city was divided into 13 districts, each district being taken by an organization for house to house canvass. The township part was taken care of through the town-

ship schools. Tags were also sold on the street through the business district. The glass factory also took tags which were sold in the factory. The art department of the school made the posters used as part of the advertising and letters were typed by the typewriting classes and sent into each home. Tags were sold for whatever price a person wished to give. Donations of books and magazines were also asked for. A fine spirit of cooperation was shown by everyone assisting and the sum of \$85 was realized from the sale of the tags.

During the weeks preceding Christmas the library basement was used as headquarters by the Boy Scouts for the repairing of toys donated by citizens of the city and used in Christmas baskets. The library basement has also been rearranged and is being used as a nursery school which was established by the Governor's Commission on Unemployment Relief.

John F. Linn, a valued member of the library board from its beginning in 1913, died November 22nd.

Huntington. The Kiwanis club is sponsoring a library for the county hospital through a committee of which Priscilla MacArthur, librarian, is a member.

Indianapolis. Mr. Dickerson's annual report issued in December is comprehensive. Two amusing and instructive graphs illustrate it and special reports are included from the business branch library, teacher's special library and the division of library service to schools. An illustrated chart titled "Contrasts" shows graphically the increase of circulation for the last five years, 50.24 per cent; increase of borrowers, 22 per cent; and in contrast the decrease of total expenditures, 18.42 per cent; decrease in expenditures for books, 37.52 per cent. Other librarians will be interested in what is said in the two following sections of the report:

HOW MUCH DO PEOPLE READ?

The amount of use as measured by books drawn for home reading follows the same trend as the registration of borrowers, but

it is relatively much higher. This is but natural since former borrowers also are confronted with the problem of utilizing leisure time. The greatest increase in use appeared in the year ending June 30, 1931, during which 375,000, or 17 per cent, more books were borrowed for home use than during the previous year. The increase has been consistent, with the result that it is 50 per cent greater than five years ago.

Five years ago 2,297,000 books were circulated; last year the number was 3,451,000. Ten years ago the number was 1,552,500 and 20 years ago 545,000.

The mere mechanics of issuing, recording, and receiving back and clearing the records of nearly three and one-half million items of public property each year, itself is a task of great responsibility, and involves a vast amount of painstaking labor.

WHAT DO THEY READ?

The nature of the demands and of use has shown certain shifts and tendencies. Immediately after the appearance of business distress, executives and their personnel in positions of responsibility in business, finance, and industry began a hurried study of every practical aspect of their type of institution; of efficiency systems, trade territory service, competing industries, production methods, exports, and especially of sales promotion data. As the length and seriousness of the economic low tide became apparent, this type of demand continued but was varied as different local and national problems one by one came to the forefront. Data bearing on problems of basic and complete reorganization were called for; likewise, on employee turnover, hours of labor, wage scales, taxation, governmental reorganization. Finally there appeared more generally than ever before a widespread study of the academic and historical nature of such subjects as money, inflation, economic cycles, social problems, the theory of government, and of the rise and progress or collapse of the civilizations and financial structures of the Old World.

The displaced employee lost little time in seeking to improve his abilities and skills

in his former job through the study of books. We made unusually heavy purchases to meet these demands, but at no time were our resources equal to calls for "practical" material on every conceivable job and profession, from package wrapping, through stenography and secretarial work to the skilled crafts and learned professions. It is observable that after one or two years, the use of material on such subjects lagged as compared with that of the first year; but it remained higher than at any previous time. Apparently the unemployed became discouraged and too mentally tired to continue the solitary effort of self-improvement. However, with the appearance of what appeared to be a false indication of business and employment improvement in 1933, the curve of use of job data again turned sharply upward.

Alongside this extensive use of books for strictly utilitarian purposes, there was a steady and corresponding increase in "general reading" and study. For many, the individual problem was that of filling the long days and the longer nights some way, in any way, that did not cost money. For heads of families and for children alike, there was less, and finally nothing, with which to purchase entertainment and recreation. They were turned back upon themselves for the first time in their lives and were forced to depend upon individual and home resources instead of upon mass recreation, which formerly had been purchased casually and without question. We may well doubt whether civilization has witnessed a more tragic drama than that of the individual's struggle to reorient himself entirely in a few ill-fated years.

During the period roughly extending through 1931-32, every one who had mastered the mechanics of reading seemed to want mystery stories and similar thrillers. No doubt that is due to the same causes that made popular the ridiculous puzzles of various sorts; it was the need for time-occupiers, for something that would offer an avenue along which the mind might escape from all too real a reality. But these par-

ticular forms of escape seem to have fed upon themselves to such an extent that the reader is fairly well satiated with this particular diet.

Even with the temporary extensive reading of highly imaginative literature, the normal relationship of the circulation of non-fiction to that of fiction has been maintained—that of 40 to 60 per cent. There can be no doubt that the *time* spent on reading "serious books" has increased extraordinarily. The turnover of popular fiction has been unusually quick—a few days for each—and has provided a higher corresponding circulation figure. The turnover of the average book of non-fiction has been slower—from one to two or three weeks—indicating more careful reading and study.

The fields showing greatest increases are philosophy and religion, history and biography, sociology, and travel.

Perhaps one of the most difficult, as well as one of the most important, service problems brought constantly to librarians has been that growing out of the individual's approach to religion and philosophy. A generation ago the same readers were asking, though in far fewer numbers, for "something about religion." The same fundamental need or searching now is expressed in the call for "a good book on philosophy." It should be noted, however, that books on religion also are read more widely than five years ago.

These increasing calls, frankly and naively expressed, for material on religion, comparative religion, philosophy, sociology, and the history of man seem clearly to imply a greater extent than formerly of an interest in man's relationship to the universe, to God, and to other men. The lightly embraced confidence in inherited faiths, in traditions, and in institutions had been shaken, and in many instances broken down. The seeking appears to grow out of an effort to restore these faiths and beliefs or to find other and more acceptable adjustments to life. As long as that seeking remains rational and persistent, we must remain optimistic.

But the responsibility of an institution which receives these calls for the materials of study and for guidance, from men and women of all ages and faiths and of every conceivable environment and of every degree of educational and emotional development, comes as a shock to the administration when the significance of the requests is appreciated.

The Art department of the public library has received from the Carnegie Corporation a gift of their College Art Teaching Equipment Set consisting of 221 volumes of general art histories of different countries and periods and texts on prints, the theatre, textiles and rugs, costume, ornament, landscape design, furniture, architecture, painting, pottery and various arts and crafts. There are 2,126 mounted pictures which supplement the books in the collection. These pictures illustrate fully the painting, sculpture, architecture and arts and crafts discussed in the books. The plan is to make the books in the collection strictly reference but the pictures may be borrowed for exhibit and study purposes.

Effie Stroud of Hampton Institute library school is the new librarian of Paul Laurence Dunbar branch. Annette Hedges has resigned from the staff of the public library to be married to Darrell Robinson of Indianapolis. Alison Rush, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Rush, was married on January 5 in Riverside Church, New York, to William Hugh Roberts of Philadelphia.

Gretta Smith, who has been in charge of the thirteen large display windows of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore since the opening of their new building in 1933, has now become head of the Art department. Edna Johnson's wax figures have been exhibited in Bakersfield, California, and in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Traveling across the continent in a wooden traveling case made to specifications for them.

The Anthology of Children's Literature compiled by Edna Johnson of Indiana University and Carrie E. Scott of the public library staff has just been published by Houghton, Mifflin Company. While prepared

primarily for students of children's literature it will also be invaluable to all teachers and parents because of the hundreds of stories and poems included and because of the fine sense of values in children's literature applied in the selection.

The records, registers, year books and official minute books of the Nature Study Club of Indiana were deposited in the State library at a special meeting December 15th. The library has become the official depository for similar records of several organizations thus providing safe keeping at a central location.

From the State library staff Fern McKesson was married to Kenneth Booz of Indianapolis on October 12, 1934. Miss McKesson's home was Plymouth. Muriel Marcus of Indianapolis was married December 18th to Eugene Rowland of Brazil. Beatrice Brown of Greencastle was appointed to the position vacated by Mrs. Rowland.

Jasper. The new library was opened to the public December 18th. Margaret A. Wilson has been named as librarian and Mrs. Bomar Traylor elected first president of the Board of Trustees. The library of seven hundred volumes has rooms in the city hall and is open Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

LaPorte. As a living memorial to the late Mrs. Jennie B. Jessup, Irwin Bauch, proprietor of the Mayflower nursery, presented the public library with a beautiful 10-year-old Norway spruce. Mr. Bauch made the presentation because of the many years of service he has enjoyed from the library and because of the treasured memories he holds for Mrs. Jessup, librarian for so many years. Mr. Bauch has held a card in the library continuously since he was six years old, taking it out at the time Mrs. Jessup was librarian.

Marion. The *Chronicle-Tribune* in December devoted a page story to the public library showing portraits of the eight librarians. It announced the retirement of Daisy Springer as consulting librarian and ad-

vancement of Mrs. Frances W. Davis as librarian. Mrs. Davis has been acting librarian since November, 1931, when Miss Springer gave up active service owing to ill health. Miss Springer joined the Marion library staff in 1905 and was elected as librarian in 1917. One who has known Miss Springer and her work paid the following tribute to her. "The phenomenal growth of the library was largely made during Miss Springer's long leadership. Her heart and soul were in the library work and she gave the best years of her life to furthering the usefulness of the library in the community. All of the present staff have had training under her, and will always feel her influence in their work."

Martinsville. Esther Stallmann has been called to the Syracuse University library school as temporary instructor during the second semester.

Mishawaka. Following up the interest of book week the public library provided a book evening for adults. The librarian gave thumbnail sketches of ten books of fiction and ten of non-fiction. Nine patrons and trustees reviewed briefly recent favorites they had read and the members of the staff presented a skit "The flight of a book" which demonstrated ordering, classification, cataloging and book preparation in the library.

Monon. The twentieth anniversary of the library was celebrated December 11th by a book shower and evening program. Local musical numbers with an address by the state librarian formed the program. Two hundred books were given and a full auditorium enjoyed the evening.

Mooresville. The library board asked the township trustee to allocate part of the funds received from the poll tax to the public library. From this source \$200 was received from the town and about \$150 from the township. The poll tax is divided among various units by the trustee and he may assign part of it to the library.

Owing to an error the library tax levy of eight cents allowed by the County adjustment board was recorded to the credit of the street lighting fund. The library petitioned for a hearing and the judge called a special meeting December 5th of the county tax adjustment board to authorize and consent to a correction of the auditor's record, which was done.

Trimmed with bronzed pine cones, silver buckeyes, and glittering pods an educational Christmas tree arranged by the Scouts attracted much attention at the public library during Christmas week. The Scouts spent many hours during the fall in collection of the scores of woodland products for the tree, and during winter meetings, they painted them, strung the pods on bright string, and prepared the decorations for the tree. A giant pine tree was chosen for the project.

Perhaps one of the most unusual of the decorations was the bright star which topped the tree. It was made of a milkweed pod, with its five points spread open and tinted gold.

Among the products used for trimmings on the tree were acorns and burs from oak, beechnuts, buckeyes, butternuts or white walnuts, catalpa pods, chestnut burs, coffee bean tree pods, cones from pines, firs and spruce, dogwood, siberian, hickorynuts, honey locust, magnolia pods, maple tree paddles on string, persimmon caps, redbud pods on string, sycamore balls, tulip tree cones, walnuts, leaves from maple, oak, sycamore, greenbrier, and willow trees.

Shrub and plant products included bitersweet, blackberry, lilly, butter and eggs, ground cherry, jimson, hardy sweet pea, hydrangia, iron weed, Joe Pie weed, mallow, milkweed, common and four leaf mole bean, polk berry, puff ball, Queen Anne's lace, rose mallow, sand bur, trumpet vine, teasle, thistle, and wild currant.

Muncie. The association for childhood education, an organization of teachers of primary grades in the city schools, has placed its library of books on teaching methods and related subjects in the public library. It affords a growing collection of 120 books a central location for use and consultation.

Nappanee. Maxine E. Wright has been appointed librarian of the Lincoln branch library at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and began work January 7th. She graduated from Earlham College and Drexel library school.

Newburgh. The Boonville Library Concert Company repeated their Boonville concert program at Newburgh for the benefit of the public library book fund raising thereby a welcome amount for new book purchases.

Otterbein. Carolyn Switzer is the newly appointed librarian succeeding Mrs. James Robert Price, who was Roberta Pierce and is now living in Lafayette, having married Mr. Price November 30th.

Roanoke. The library was moved into new quarters in December. The bank room of the First and Farmer's Bank was renovated and prepared for the library.

St. Meinrad. The January *Wilson Bulletin* contains an article, with photograph, on the new magazine rack installed in the Seminary library by Rev. Placidus S. Kempf, librarian.

South Bend. Two five page book lists published at the public library are "Accounting" and "Treasure nook" the latter an intermediate selection.

Miss Josephine Parker, Western Reserve, is organizing the new library in Central Junior High School this year.

Upland. A new public library was opened December 13th in a building donated for the purpose by Isaiah Miller. An impressive program was presented.

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